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GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR NEW CALEDONIA'S INDEPENDENCE

Kuala Lumpur THE NATIONAL ECHO in English 12 Apr 83 p 5

[Text]

CANBERRA, Mon. — Australia and Papua New Guinea reaffirmed their support for independence of the French Pacific territory of New Caledonia during talks between the two governments in Port Moresby.

In a joint communique issued after their meeting yesterday, Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and Papua New Guinea Foreign Minister Rabble L. Namaliu said France should make an early commitment to independence as a goal for the territory.

Both ministers expressed their opposition to the testing of nuclear weapons in all environments and particularly the dumping or storage of radioactive waste in the Pacific Ocean.

Mr Hayden spent two days in Papua New Guinea meeting with Prime Minister Michael Somare and Foreign Af-

fairs officials following a round of talks in Indonesia.

He said the Australian Government would make a special AU\$10 million dollar (M\$19 million) grant to Papua New Guinea "in recognition of the stern measures having to be taken immediately by them" and pending consideration of a request for increased financial aid from Australia.

Papua New Guinea, which gained its independence from Australia in 1975, has asked that Australia reduce its annual budget aid more

slowly than the agreed five per cent.

The future of Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meetings (CHOGRM) was questioned by Mr Hayden.

He said both he and the Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke had wondered whether frequent Commonwealth regional meetings were the most effective way to promote regional affairs and that there might be other means of facilitating high level consultations in the region,

— AFP.

BRUNEI TO CONTINUE SHELL OIL ACCORD

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Apr 83 p 48

[Article by Ronnie Lim]

[Text] The Royal Dutch/Shell Group and the Brunei government will continue to jointly exploit the sultanate's oil and gas resources under present arrangements between the two parties, it was made clear yesterday.

This agreement will not be threatened in any way by the defence talks between Britain and Brunei.

A Brunei government statement issued yesterday said there was no foundation whatsoever in an earlier news agency report that Brunei might end its arrangements with the Shell Group unless Britain agreed to continue stationing a battalion of Gurkha troops on acceptable terms after Brunei gains independence at the end of the year.

'Not Linked to Defense Talks'

The statement added that "the partnership between the State of Brunei and the Shell Group according to the present agreement has no relationship whatsoever with any other aspect, directly or indirectly, with defence talks between Brunei and the United Kingdom."

The Brunei government has a 50 per cent share (with Shell holding the other 50 per cent) in Brunei Shell Petroleum Company, which is in charge of exploration and production of oil and gas, and Brunei Shell Marketing Company, which markets oil products.

It also has a one-third share in Brunei LNG Company and Brunei Coldgas, with Shell and Mitsubishi Corporation being the other partners.

CSO: 4200/592

BRUNEI GETS MOSQUE COUNCIL

Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English 16 Apr 83 p 12

[Text]

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN. — Brunei has taken another step towards strengthening its Islamic foundations in preparation for full independence.

A Local Council of Mosques was inaugurated here recently which will further unite Brunei with other Muslim nations and communities.

The new body is affiliated to the Continental Council of Mosques for Asia and the Pacific — inaugurated in Jakarta by Indonesia's President Suharto last December — and the highest authority, the Supreme Council of World Mosques in Mecca.

Local Councils of Mosques have been established in Muslim communities and nations throughout the world.

Three Saudi Arabian officials attended the Brunei inauguration at the Omar Ali Saifuddin Mosque in Bandar Seri Begawan.

They were Sayed Ali Muhammad Mohktar, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of World Mosques, Sheikh Muhammad Nasir Al Aboudi, Secretary-General of the High Commission for the Development of Religious Propagation, and Sheikh Ahmad Al Mubarak, a Saudi Foreign Ministry official.

The Deputy Head of the Brunei Religious Af-

fairs Department, Pehin Dato Imam Haji Yahya bin Ibrahim, who is also Secretary-General of the new local mosques organisation, said: "One of our aims is to revive the role of mosques as not only places worship but also places for educational and other gatherings, as they were in the Prophet's time."

He agreed that Brunei is trying to strengthen the Islamic content of its laws and added: "We should do this as a matter of principle."

To further the teachings of Islam, the government is building a \$17 million Islamic Mission Centre near the National Stadium at Berakas.

In addition to this, new mosques will be built throughout the state.

Brunei Chief Kadi, Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Hamid bin Bakal, is currently leading a four-man delegation of Brunei Religious Affairs Department officials on a study tour of the Islamic strongholds of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Pakistan.

The team is trying to assess to what extent Islamic laws in these countries can be introduced here.

The Chief Kadi is one of seven officers who will sit on the Local Council

of Mosques for renewable five-year periods. He is Vice Chairman.

The head of the Religious Affairs Department, Pehin Dato Haji Mohammad Zain bin Haji Serudin, is Chairman.

Other aims of Local Councils of Mosques include ensuring the proper upkeep of mosques and protecting Muslims in countries where they are minority groups.

The three Saudi officials who visited Brunei met his Highness the Sultan and Yang Dipertuan and senior government and Religious Affairs officials, including the Acting Menteri Besar, Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Aziz.

Senior Religious Affairs officials featured in new honours bestowed by the Sultan recently.

Pehin Yahya and the Deputy Chief Kadi, Haji Abdul Aziz bin Juned, were installed as Pehin Menteri Agama.

Two other Religious Affairs officers, Haji Zainal bin Kahar and Haji Ahmad bin Abdul Razak, were installed as Pehin Khatibs and another official, Mudim Haji Abdul Wahib bin Awang Besar, was upgraded to Pehin Khatib. The ceremonies were held at the Lapau building.

GOVERNMENT SIGNS LOAN AGREEMENT WITH JAPANESE CONSORTIUM

Kuala Lumpur THE NATIONAL ECHO in English 16 Apr 83 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri.--The Malaysian Government today signed an agreement for a US\$550 million (M\$1,263.9 million) term loan from a consortium of 52 financial institutions.

The loan was coordinated by Bank Bumiputra and Asia Pacific Capital Corporation, a member of Citicorp Capital Markets Group.

The Deputy Finance Minister, Encik Sabaruddin Chik, who signed the agreement on behalf of the Government, said he was impressed by the strong support shown by Japanese banks in particular.

A total of 17 Japanese financial institutions participated in the loan syndication.

Encik Sabaruddin hoped that the support by Japanese institution would continue in the future.

He said the participation of many international banks in the loan syndication reflected the confidence of the international banking community not only in the Malaysian government's economic and financial management but also the country's economic prospects.

He added that with the latest loan, Malaysia's debt service ratio had risen from 4.7 per cent to 4.9 per cent.

According to Bank Bumiputra, the US prime rate tranche and the tax spared tranche were extendable to a final maturity of 10 years subject to agreement between the lenders and the borrower.

The bank said a margin of half per cent per annum over Libor for 10 years in today's market was considered fine and reflected the high standing of Malaysia.

CSO: 4200/591

GOVERNMENT TO ENFORCE 'MALAYSIA INCORPORATED' CONCEPT

Kuala Lumpur THE NATIONAL ECHO in English 24 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat.--The Works and Utilities Ministry has drawn up an action programme to enforce the government's "Malaysia Incorporated" concept, the Minister, Datuk S. Samy Vellu, said today.

As a first step, the ministry will have a meeting with professional bodies next month to discuss the concept aimed at fostering close co-operation between the public and private sectors.

Those invited for the meeting will include representatives of the Board of Engineers, the Board of Architects and the Board of Quantity Surveyors.

Datuk Samy Vellu said the ministry's top officials had meanwhile held several meetings to discuss the concept and to work out ways and means of applying the concept to the ministry and its Public Works Department (PWD).

He said the officials had suggested the following:

--Private sector consultants be treated as an "extension" of the PWD for project implementation. In the past they had been treated as "outsiders".

--Private sector involvement in the preparation of technical specification be based on standard PWD practices.

Such practices might not be totally applicable in the light of technological advantages and views of the private sector could be of value in raising the standard of finished works.

Contacts

--More personal contact and exchanges of views with private developers of large-scale development projects housing or industrial, along federal roads.

In this matter, power would be delegated to state and district PWD engineers to decide and approve proposals from such developers and entrepreneurs.

--a more ready acceptance of prefabricated structures offered by the private sector.

The PWD/Contractor interaction to solve problems on site particularly problems of bumiputera contractors.

--Private sector participation specific meetings and seminars be organised by the ministry.

Their views and opinions could be sought and taken into account for project implementation and for other policy matters.

--More policy information be made available to the private sector to enable it to plan its programmes to suit needs of the department.

Datuk Samy Vellu said a detailed list of suggestions had been drawn up and would be discussed at the meeting with professional bodies next month.

He said the specific suggestions were being studied and would be introduced gradually by the ministry.

CSO: 4200/591

MAHATHIR RETURNS WITH NEWS OF BETTER TRADE TIES

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Apr 83 p 16

[Text]

SEVERAL areas of co-operation in the fields of trade and investment have been identified for future expansion between Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told a press conference on his return last night from a nine-day visit to these countries, that greater cooperation could be expected from the three with Malaysia in the future, the Malaysian Business Times reported today.

The Prime Minister said Bangladesh produced paper which Malaysia imports "but not in great quantities." This could be expanded. Another possibility was for imports of fresh food and vegetables which were produced in considerable amounts by Bangladesh.

He said the Sri Lankan government was prepared to set aside between 700 and 800 acres of land to grow crops for Malaysia's needs.

The area fell within the Mahaweli irrigation scheme which Dr Mahathir visited. He said the area could be developed on a joint-venture basis between Sri Lankan and Malaysian partners for production of crops such as spices, which Malaysia at the moment bought from other countries.

In the case of the Maldives, a group of islands in the Indian Ocean, Dr Mahathir said there was a possibility of joint ventures in fishing and fishmeal industries as well, and the canning of fish.

Last year Malaysia imported goods valued at \$10.6 million from Bangladesh while exports to Bangladesh were valued at \$5.6 million.

In the case of Sri Lanka, imports were valued at \$34.3 million while exports totalled \$24.9 million. In the case of the Maldives, the trade was very small and not separately classified.

Malaysia's proposal for greater South-South co-operation and the emphasis on producers' association to help determine their own future, was well received by all three.

While there was some reservation initially as the countries felt that they were too small, they agreed to support the proposal when it was emphasised that via South-South co-operation, the pooling of resources

and by working together, all the developing countries of the South could be a force to be reckoned with.

Dr Mahathir stressed by pooling their resources the small developing countries of the South could have a stronger voice in world forums, and be more effective in achieving development goals.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by a group of businessmen led by Dr Nawawi Mat Awin, executive chairman of Bank Bumiputra and president of the Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The members of the business group had several discussions with their counterparts in the three countries and they are said to have identified a number of possible areas of cooperation.

This is the second time that the Prime Minister has taken a group of businessmen on his official visits overseas. The first was on his trip to the Pacific Islands of Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Tonga last year.

RADICALS, MODERATES FIGHT FOR CONTROL OF PARTY ISLAM

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Apr 83 p 20

["The Region" by Ismail Kassim]

[Text] Choice of Nominees: The radicals--Ustaz Fadhil Nor, acting deputy president, Ustaz Abdul Hadi Awang, vice-president; The moderates--Haji Yusuf Rawa, acting president

THE CRISIS in Malaysia's opposition Party Islam (PAS) which erupted at last year's annual congress still lingers on despite the resignation of its former leader, Datuk Asri Haji Muda, and some of his key supporters.

Although they have left to form yet another Islamic-oriented party, Hizbul Muslimin (Hamim) or the Islamic Front, a few of Datuk Asri's veteran party stalwarts like Datuk Abu Bakar Umar and Datuk Wahab Sudin are still in PAS.

Latest reports indicate that they are fighting some kind of rearguard battle to try and influence the biennial party elections and the proceedings at the three-day PAS annual congress which begins today.

They are openly court-ing disciplinary action by backing Datuk Asri during the crisis and associating themselves with Hamim which is still seeking registration.

Some Malaysian observers have suggested that they apparently preferred to be sacked from PAS rather than resign on their own accord as they have been party members for years.

The reason given is that if they were dismissed, some of their personal supporters might also leave PAS in sympathy with them.

Power

But with the rise of the Young Turks who precipitated the crisis last year by attempting to elevate the role of the *Ulamaks* (Religious Scholars), veterans like Datuk Asri and their men have lost much of their influence.

The radicals who are mainly younger and better-educated members are, however, not in complete control of the party. Aside from the pro-Asri group, there are also the moderate elements.

The cleavage between the radicals and moderates is clearly reflected in the nominations from the grassroots for the party top posts.

Those in the former group are pushing for either the current acting deputy president, Ustaz Fadhil Nor, or the firebrand from Trengganu and also party vice-president, Ustaz Abdul Hadi Awang, for the top post.

Members of the latter favour retaining Haji Yusuf Rawa who is much older than his rivals and who is also apparently more secular-oriented.

When he was made acting PAS president last year following the sudden resignation of Datuk Asri, he was seen as nothing more than a transitional figure who was standing-in for the more radical leaders.

In an attempt at preserving party unity, both groups have compromised to avoid a contest for the two top posts, with the incumbents being returned unopposed to their current positions.

But there is likely to be a fight for the two posts of vice-presidents among the incumbent Ustaz Abdul Hadi, Information chief Ustaz Nakhale Ahmad, and former secretary general, Haji Abu Bakar Hamzah who has just rejoined the party. Dr Abbas Alias who was appointed to the post at the last congress meeting, called Mukhtamar, declined nomination.

Up to now, there has been very little indication on the future direction of PAS and its political objectives under the new and more Islamic-oriented leaders compared with their predecessors who were more inclined towards Malay nationalism.

Clues

The address of acting president Haji Yusuf, 61.

at the Muktamar, will be scrutinised for clues on the priorities of its political struggle against Umno, the leader of the multi-party National Front and its chief rival for Malay votes.

The delegates to this Muktamar will also formalise changes to the party structure to give a pre-eminent role to the *Ulamaks* in deciding on all policy matters.

The restructuring is seen by local observers as an attempt to imitate the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Party which gives eminent religious scholars, the Ayatollahs, the final say on party policies.

Under the proposed changes, a supreme 12-member policy-making body, the *Majlis Syura Ulamak* (Consultative Council for Theologians), will be set up.

Four of the members will be elected by the PAS supreme council, four by the newly-constituted *Ulamak* and Intellectual wing of the party and the eight will then meet to choose the remaining four members of the council. None of them will be allowed to hold any other post at any level in the party to avoid a conflict of interest.

Ustaz Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat, head of the present *Ulamak* wing, is likely to

be elected head of the council.

At a recent press conference, Haji Yusuf emphasised that the proposed changes would lead to a better balance of power between the various groups in the party and it would also lead to rule by consensus.

With reference to the powerful *Ulamak* council, he said that although its decisions would be binding, they must be based strictly on Islamic principles.

For instance, he said when vetoing a resolution put forward by any of the three wings (Youth, Women, *Ulamak* and Intellectuals), it must explain why they could not be adopted, giving reasons based on Islamic teachings.

Another change that might be sought by the Youth wing is a proposal to amend the party constitution to change its struggle from fighting for Malay interests *per se* to advancing the interests of all Muslims in the country regardless of race.

Sources indicate that such a resolution is likely to be debated and adopted at the annual assembly of the Youth wing which will take place on the first day of the Muktamar.

Risk

The broadening of the party platform along the proposed lines will not necessarily strengthen its electoral chances in the Malay dominated constituencies during polling.

In wooing the votes of converts and other non-Malay Muslims, PAS might in the end lose some support from its ranks who might put Malay interests above Islamic unity.

For instance, any move to extend the current privileges for bumiputras to Muslims in general is not likely to be popular with the Malay ground.

At the moment, PAS has managed to survive its latest crisis with its strength largely intact as was demonstrated in the by-election last month for the parliamentary seat of Ulu Muda, a largely rural seat in Kedah.

In terms of parliamentary strength, the defection of two MPs to Hamim and the likely departure of a third, Datuk Abu Bakar Umar, will diminish its representation in the 154-member Parliament to only one.

But the PAS influence especially at the kampung level has always been out of proportion to its parliamentary strength, and the current situation is no exception.

BRIEFS

ISLAMIC STUDIES--Bandar Seri Begawan, Sun.--The Islamic studies syllabus for secondary schools is being drafted and was expected to be ready at the end of the year, the Education Minister, Datuk Dr Sulaiman Haji Daud said. The syllabus like in the primary schools, would emphasise the practicality of Islam and general knowledge of the religion. He said the necessity of religious camps because a systematic and effective inculcation of religion among students was important. Datuk Dr Sulaiman was at the opening of the Seri Aman Religious School in the secondary division. He said they should review religious education seriously and begin by showing exemplary example which their children can follow. He said Islamic education was important in bringing about a society that was strong, dedicated and industrious for peace in the country. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur THE NATIONAL ECHO in English 11 Apr 83 p 16]

CSO: 4200/591

FRANCE SUBMITS PROJECT TO FINALIZE 'DECOLONIZATION' PROCESS

Kanak Supporters May Make Stand

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 12 Apr 83 p 11

[Text] Independence Front supporters in New Caledonia have threatened to intensify their struggle if France refuses to recognise the Kanak people's right to govern themselves.

Front leaders told about 500 demonstrators in Noumea at the weekend that they would walk out of the local Government unless the French Government changed its policies on the island nation's future.

They said any final decision to leave the local assembly would be delayed until the French Minister of Overseas Territories, Mr George Lemoine, visited New Caledonia and French Polynesia next month.

The front leaders said that if no agreement was reached with Mr Lemoine over the status of the territories, they would set up a government in exile on Vanuatu in June.

Leaders of the parties involved in the front reaffirmed the principle of independence for New Caledonia in 1984.

After the speeches, the pro-independence demonstrators delivered a statement to the High Commissioner, Mr Jacques Roynette, calling on the French Government to recognise "the sole legitimacy of the Kanak people in their own country, the only colonised people, and the respect of its electoral mandate by struggling concretely and not verbally against colonial and capitalist privileges."

'Decolonisation' Project

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 13 Apr 83 p 28

[Text] The French Government had submitted a project giving its territory of New Caledonia a new status aimed at "finalising the process of decolonisation," said an official source.

The text, delivered to the High Commissioner, Mr Jacques Roynette, by the Secretary of State for Overseas Territories, Mr Henri Emmannuelli, is intended to ensure "fair balance between the various communities, notably ethnic Melanesians."

The new status calls for three needs to be met in the South Pacific territory: Responsibility of elected officials, responsibility of the French state, and the "insertion of New Caledonia into the South Pacific, its geographical environment."

The old status, established in 1976, already gave the territory a large measure of autonomy.

Under the new, a territorial Government will replace the council, and will be made up of a president elected by the New Caledonia Assembly and of Ministers appointed and revoked by the President.

The assembly will have powers of censure over the Government, and be dissolvable only by the Council of Ministers.

The High Commissioner will no longer head the local executive, but remain the representative of the French President and head of state services, the document said.

Sources said that the text, drafted by Mr Ammanuelli, would serve as a "basis for discussion" in Noumea.

Mr Emmannuelli is expected to visit Noumea soon to explain the French Government's plans for the territory's future.

CSO: 4200/556

GOVERNMENT TO CONTROL WAGE-PRICE RISES

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 13 Apr 83 p 6

[Text]

PA

Wellington

A warning that the Government would not allow "uncontrolled" increases in wages or prices when the freeze finished came in Parliament last evening in speeches by two backbenchers who began the Address-in-Reply debate.

Moving the motion for the debate, Mr P. R. Burdon (Nat., Fendalton) said that the Government was determined to build a firm policy for controlling inflation on the foundation of the wage-price freeze.

Both he and Mr J. A. Banks (Nat., Whangarei), who seconded the motion, said the trade unions would have to reassess how they could best serve their members when it came to negotiating a wages policy.

"It is necessary that the Federation of Labour realises the people can price themselves or be priced by their negotiators out of jobs," Mr Burdon said.

"It is equally necessary that it is recognised that people can price themselves and be priced by their negotiators into jobs, both by moderating claims and by increasing productivity."

Messrs Burdon and Banks chose to touch upon this aspect as they opened the Address-in-Reply debate, the official answer to the Governor-General's Speech from the Throne which gives members of Parliament licence to speak on any subject they choose.

To move or second the debate is considered an hon-

our in Parliamentary circles.

Mr Banks said the country ran a real risk of squandering its standard of living unless there was a fundamental change in the attitude of its people.

"We must adapt our attitudes to match the new economic reality," he said.

"New Zealanders must abandon the belief that the world owes us a living, that business will be profitable and jobs always secure."

The trade union movement and management needed to "place a premium" on productivity, competitiveness, and co-operation, both having a vested interest in the economic performance of business.

"We should never forget that virtually all of the economic growth and consequently our standard of living of the last 40 years has come from improved technology, not from union militancy," Mr Banks said.

Mr Burdon said the wage-price freeze was imposed because of the F.O.L.'s refusal to accept a wage-tax trade-off last year and the F.O.L.'s good will and good faith would be needed to set up a new wages policy now.

He said he hoped the negotiations on a new wage regime would herald a new era of union co-operation and responsibility, saying, "Indisputably, excessive wage settlements destroy job creation."

"I deeply regret the attitude of some of the more militant unions, whereby in

recent years the class struggle — indeed struggle — has become a good in itself."

This was too often based on opposition to change and technological advance and intensified "restrictive and obstructive" acts, causing the number of new jobs to drop.

Mr Burdon emphasised that in negotiations for a new wage system the Government was not calling the intentions of anyone into question, merely trying to find a "responsible solution."

Mr Banks blamed the old wage-fixing mechanism and industrial relations system in part for the present economic difficulties, and the lack of a system which "recognises the ability of business to pay" was a big reason for the low growth rate, high unemployment, and high inflation.

"Our present wage determination mechanism does not reflect national capacity to pay, nor does it reflect individual industry or company circumstances."

"The country's ability to pay should be the critical factor. When productivity is not increasing and the economy is not growing there is no capacity to have wage increases without a corresponding productivity increase," Mr Banks said.

Wages had been increasing faster than productivity over the last 10 years, and, when that happened, business profits slumped.

That meant investment in plant and equipment was not taking place to provide economic growth and jobs.

"It is as simple as that, yet trade union officials are preoccupied with dividing up the economic cake before it is baked," Mr Banks said.

"Economic reality plays virtually no part in New Zealand's wage determination process. The overriding philosophy at the bargaining table has been to squeeze the last drop out of the bottle and to let somebody else worry about how the bottle is to be refilled."

Mr Burdon said the wage-price freeze and the Closer Economic Relations agreement with Australia were the two most dramatic economic initiatives taken by the Government last year.

"We are determined to see the wages and prices freeze as a foundation on which we build a firm policy for controlling inflation," he said. "We will not allow an uncontrolled wages, and/or prices explosion."

Mr Banks advocated the abolition of compulsory union membership, saying this would allow genuine voluntary choice to workers and eliminate the "abhorrent element of compulsion."

"To return to some semblance of industrial democracy we must legislate for compulsory secret ballots, before any group of workers may lawfully strike."

Mr Banks said there should be tripartite consultations on the economic situation before each wage round to ensure the negotiations recognised the country's ability to pay, and he advocated the immediate institution of youth rates for all awards and agreements.

He said he also believed any union which failed to accept arbitration in disputes of interest or failed to stick to established procedure in disputes of right should lose all types of financial support and other privileges.

PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMY AFTER FREEZE VIEWED

Another Freeze Hinted

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 14 Apr 83 p 1

[Excerpt] **The nation's economic managers, having pushed inflation down to its lowest quarterly level since 1969, now face the seemingly enormous task of keeping it there.**

Many sections of the community yesterday welcomed the Government Statistician's news that the consumer price index rose by only 0.8 per cent between January 1 and March 31.

The rise brought the annual rate of inflation for the year to March 31 down to 12.6 per cent, the lowest figure since the 12 months to June, 1979.

But the figure follows almost nine months of a wage-price freeze — a freeze which some economists say has worked better than expected — and the future inflation rate depends very much on what the Government decides to do after the freeze.

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Templeton, said the Government would continue the freeze beyond the June 22 expiry date if it could not get voluntary wage restraint.

Rises Later

Economic pundits yesterday were picking a similarly low inflation rate for the June quarter, followed by rises later in the year as the effects of devaluation begin to show.

Many business and finan-

cial analysts were predicting an extension of controls beyond June, with a small (less than 5 per cent) general wage order and the continued holding of Government charges.

But there was some concern that with a general election due next year the Government would again be tempted to stoke up the economy in the run up to the polls, thus fuelling the inflation.

The Statistics Department figures show that half the 0.8 per cent rise in the March quarter was caused by housing costs.

Discounting in some major centres caused the price of hogget and lamb, television sets, rental cars and beer to fall during the survey period.

Food Price

The separate food price index shows a fall in March of 0.8 per cent compared with February.

The small March quarter rise in the consumer price index compares with a rise of 2.7 per cent in the December quarter, 3.6 per cent in the September quarter and 5 per cent in the June quarter.

On an annual basis, the

12.6 per cent rise for the year to March 31 compares with the 15.8 per cent for the year to March 1982, 15.2 per cent to March 1981, 18.4 per cent to March 1980 and 10.4 per cent to March 1979.

Business leaders welcomed the announcement.

The assistant director of the Manufacturers' Federation, Mr Barrie Saunders, said the figures showed New Zealand was getting down towards the lower inflation rates of its trading partners, though he hoped the freeze would be extended.

Confidence

The executive director of the Employers Federation, Mr J. W. Rowe, said falling inflation would increase business confidence.

The Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, predicted a similar rise in the June quarter, and Mr Templeton hailed the result as a remarkable national effort.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Lange, said the true test would be after the freeze ended, but meantime, thousands of jobs had been lost — and would be lost — to reduce inflation.

Wellington financial analysts are predicting an annual inflation rate of about 6 per cent by the end of this calendar year.

The June and September quarters were expected to produce low increases, but the December quarter could be pushing 3 per cent, said some analysts — a result of the devaluation and an expected general wage order of up to 3.5 per cent.

Problem

An economist at Victoria University, Mr R. A. Buckle, said the wage-price freeze had proved more successful than many economists at first thought.

Mr Buckle said devising a post-freeze policy which would not fuel inflation posed a major problem.

"There is no easy answer. Wage restraint by unions is not all there is to it," he said.

"The political dilemma is to get a change in the structure of the economy that will allow economic growth without foreign exchange constraints."

The director of the Institute of Economic Research, Mr Brian Easton, said not all the reduction in inflation was because of the freeze. Some was because of the contracting economy.

Freeze Affects Profits

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 14 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

The price freeze and recession are chilling company profits.

Wattie Industries Ltd yesterday reported after-tax trading profit was down 11.5 per cent to \$12,681,000 in the half-year to January 31.

The directors said the price freeze had had a "big effect" and the trend was likely to be reflected in the result for the full year.

Refrigeration and air-conditioning manufacturer and distributor McAlpine Industries Ltd announced a profit turnaround of \$1.3 million to a \$784,000 loss following a dramatic downturn in sales in the last three months of 1982.

Nevertheless the New Zealand sharemarket soared on news of the very small inflation rate to lift the New Zealand Herald leaders index a massive 10.3 points to a record 494.48.

This brought a 23.09-point rise in the first three trading days of the week.

Further reports are on pages 3 and 4 of section 2.

Institute Predicts Recovery

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 14 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

NZPA Wellington

Economic activity will begin to recover in 1983-84 and gather momentum from then, according to a survey published today by the Institute of Economic Research.

By 1986, the economy was expected to be growing at the rate of 3 to 4 per cent a year, the survey said.

The economy would continue to inflate faster than the economies of New Zealand's major trading partners.

"The likelihood of fresh excess demand inflation

will be high from 1985 onwards," the survey said.

Unemployment would peak at a postwar record level of 80,000 during next year, with a rate of 5½ per cent to 7 per cent of the labour force out of work, apart from those on special jobs created by the Government.

"This high level of unemployment is not expected to contribute significantly to a reduction in inflationary pressures, being more a reflection of demographic pressure than economic contraction," the survey said.

CSO: 4200/590

GOVERNMENT VIGILANT ON U.S. DAIRY AID MOVES

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 14 Apr 83 p 3

[Text]

New Zealand is watching a United States move to give 19,000 tonnes of surplus dairy products to Peru with the utmost vigilance because of the possible threat to a valuable commercial market.

A Dairy Board spokesman said yesterday that the New Zealand Government would be monitoring the move closely through the Food and Agriculture Organisation committee on surplus disposals.

Peru, he said, imported about 30,000 tonnes of skim milk powder and anhydrous milkfat annually and New Zealand had the main share of this market.

A sudden donation by the United States Government threw a heavy responsibility on the donor to ensure that the aid flowed evenly to the intended recipients and did not leak out into

the commercial trade, the spokesman said.

Assurances

The Americans had given assurances that their obligation would be honoured, but careful monitoring would be needed throughout the aid programme they had adopted in an effort to lower the huge dairy stockpile.

The New Zealand Press Association reported from Washington yesterday that the United States Department of Agriculture had announced a gift to Peru of 17,500 tonnes of skim milk powder and 1770 tonnes of butter oil.

This follows a similar donation to Mexico in February and an earlier subsidised sale of skim milk powder to that country.

Negotiations

The United States is now also negotiating to sell about 25,000 tonnes of subsidised butter and cheese to Egypt but the talks appear stalled at the moment, says the Press Association.

The gift aid to Peru is to go to pregnant women, nursing mothers and children and to children in public schools.

The United States Department of Agriculture is also considering dairy gifts to Poland and Indonesia, another significant New Zealand market, and it is also looking at later donations to a number of other countries.

Under its gift aid programme the United States has so far given 53,313 tonnes of surplus dairy products to governments and charitable institutions in foreign countries — Haiti, Chile, Mexico and Peru.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON U.S. DAIRY AID TO PERU

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 16 Apr 83 p 16

[Editorial: "Dairy Produce for Peru"]

[Text]

The announcement by the United States Department of Agriculture that it planned to give more than 19,000 tonnes of surplus dairy produce to Peru bodes ill for New Zealand. The American aid will include 17,500 tonnes of non-fat dry milk. In 1981, New Zealand exported 19,945 tonnes of skim milk powder to Peru. The American gift is not likely to leave the New Zealand market untouched. Although the effect cannot be exactly foreseen, prices for New Zealand produce will probably not remain at the present level in Peru.

New Zealand is awkwardly placed as a result of the American action. To protest too vigorously would seem to be complaining about the giving of aid to some of the world's needy. The United States Department of Agriculture said that the dairy produce would go to pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children. It is hard to argue a case that could cast New Zealand as a country denying food to nursing mothers and to children. If the dairy produce were made available to Peru over a five-month period, as has been suggested, it would amount to between 60 per cent and 70 per cent of the normal commercial market. Perhaps food aid would stay out of the commercial market; but on the face of it, the quantities seem so large that it is reasonable to assume that some of it will find its way on to the commercial market.

The United States has made the food aid available not as a deliberate act of aid policy but because subsidised production in the United States has encouraged surplus production and this has created political pressures to be rid of the surplus. Various suggestions have been made. One was that it would be used as a weapon in a trade war between the United States and the European Economic Community over the sale of subsidised European agricultural products. This strategy may not

have been forgotten. The United States and the E.E.C. will talk about the subject again this month.

The real conflict between the United States and the E.E.C. is not over dairy products at all, but over wheat, flour, poultry, and sugar. The sale of dairy products would serve as a weapon because the United States conveniently had them available. The United States sold some flour cheaply to Egypt just to make the point to the E.E.C. So far, however, a full-scale trade war has been averted. New Zealand would be caught in the middle of such a conflict and must hope that it will continue to be avoided. The United States, without being specific about how it would avoid hurting New Zealand and other producers of unsubsidised dairy products has, nevertheless, said that it would not harm New Zealand's interests. The food aid that is being given to Peru is not reassuring should a trade war break out in earnest.

On the principle that most problems deserve at least one committee, a body oversees questions of getting rid of surplus production. The Food and Agricultural Organisation's Committee on Surplus Disposals has strict rules about food aid and subsidised sales. The Americans have various programmes for food aid and sales of agricultural produce, some of which include complex credit arrangements. It is difficult to be sure that they conform to the rules. There is certainly no guarantee that the disposal of surplus dairy products will stop at Peru. Already, surpluses have gone to Chile and Haiti. Egypt and Indonesia are on the list for further aid packages. All these countries have needy people. The very least that New Zealand should do is obtain some undertaking from the United States that the supply to these countries would be gradual and well supervised so that ordinary commercial transactions are not destroyed.

A great deal of world hypocrisy prevails about agricultural trade. A tremendous outcry would be raised if a country decided to make industrial products available free on a large scale. Few countries protest when this is done with agricultural products. An impossible situation would develop for New Zealand if the double standard were extended to allowing the rich, industrial countries to give away their subsidised agricultural produce as part of an effort to solve the North-South dilemma. This would wreck the New Zealand economy and would undermine the efforts of some developing countries to feed their own populations.

EXPORT-IMPORT CORPORATION RECEIVES ORDER FROM PRC

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 13 Apr 83 p 5

[Text]

The New Zealand Export-Import Corporation has achieved further sales to China with a \$4.3 million order for steel, pulp and hides.

The sales, which result from a recent New Zealand economic mission to China, cover more than 10,000 tonnes of steel reinforcing bar and wire rod from Pacific Steel Ltd; 3000 tonnes of thermo-mechanical pulp from the Winstone Karioi pulp mill, and 9000 North Island cattle hides.

The general manager of the Government-owned corporation, Mr C. B. Stanworth, took part in the economic mission as chairman of the New Zealand China Trade Association.

He remained in Peking for three days after the mission left to complete the deals with three separate Chinese Government importing and exporting corporations.

The mission, led by the Minister for Overseas Trade, Mr Cooper, consisted of 12 New Zealand exporters.

Major Buyer

Mr Stanworth said the sale negotiated for Otahuhu-based Pacific Steel marked the re-emergence of China as a major buyer of New Zealand steel products.

He said China bought 72,000 tonnes of Pacific Steel products through the corporation between 1978 and last year, but then withdrew from the market because of restructuring within its economy.

Further steel sales were likely this year for use in the country's construction programme, he said.

The Winstone pulp order is part of a two-year contract for the supply of a minimum 10,000 tonnes a year to China's newsprint manufacturing industry. The cattle hides are for use in its shoe industry.

Wide Spectrum

Mr Stanworth said China's recently-released five-year plan would provide New Zealand exporters generally with many more sales opportunities.

This would include not only traditional lines such as tallow, hides and wool, but also pulp, steel and agricultural lines such as dairy cattle, breeding sheep, wool scouring machinery and dairy factory plant.

"The country's vigorous agricultural programme offers excellent opportunities for a wide spectrum of New Zealand exporters," he said.

The Pacific Steel commercial manager, Mr J. E. Hilliard, said the steel order, representing three weeks' production from its two rolling mills, came at a time when the domestic market was depressed.

All the products in the latest sale to China will be shipped from New Zealand during May and June.

CSO: 4200/590

CHINA INTERESTED IN JOINT WOOD-PROCESSING VENTURE

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 19 Apr 83 p 3

[Text] The Chinese Government has raised the possibility of establishing a wood-processing joint venture in New Zealand, the Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, said yesterday.

The pulp and paper plant idea was brought up by the Chinese Premier, Zhao Ziyang, before he left New Zealand but after official talks ended.

Mr Zhao mentioned the joint venture on Friday night, when he hosted a dinner.

"He raised the question with me whether we would be receptive to that. . . I said we would," Mr Muldoon said.

The Prime Minister said the private sector would be the New Zealand side of the joint venture if it went ahead, and he thought the equity would be shared 50-50 between the two countries.

There was no obvious site for the proposal, he said.

Outlining prospects for trade expansion, Mr Muldoon said the Chinese Premier's five-day tour here was "not simply a goodwill visit, but with the practical aspect very much to the fore."

Mr Muldoon described it as "altogether one of the more important visits that we have had in recent times."

He said Mr Zhao had invited him to China and he would probably return there next year for his second visit in four years.

The cabinet was briefed yesterday on the premier's visit.

Mr Muldoon said the principal areas of interest were forest products and animal husbandry.

Breeding stock and agricultural techniques, plus joint-venture farming, were possible areas of expansion for New Zealand, Mr Muldoon said.

And NZ Forest Products has already earmarked a greater output for the People's Republic of China.

The company's managing director, Mr D. O. Walker, said export commitments had to be made years in advance but that his company had already made more timber available to China.

Mr Walker returned last month from a trade mission to China and said he encountered stronger demand for timber than previously.

New Zealand did not face the isolation it did with some of its markets. China could be reached by sea and transport costs would be competitive with the North Americans and Europeans, making it a very important market.

CSO: 4200/590

AID TO SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND IMPORTANT FOR SECURITY REASONS

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 19 Apr 83 p 13

[Text] NZPA Wellington--A growing interest in the South Pacific by major world powers makes New Zealand aid to the islands even more important for security reasons, the Labour Party's Pacific affairs spokesman, Dr G. A. Wall, said yesterday.

Dr Wall, the MP for Porirua, returned on Sunday with a parliamentary delegation from a tour of Western Samoa, Niue, the Cook Islands and Tonga.

He said the increasing interest by major powers in this area of the Pacific impressed most members of the delegation.

"Many of these powers had not had past association with the Pacific and are not traditionally seen as New Zealand friends or allies," Dr Wall said.

"The political impact of their entry into this area of supply urgent economic needs would undoubtedly alter the political balance and in doing so raise very serious security problems for New Zealand.

"Worldwide, it is recognised that national security is best maintained by friendly neighbours.

"This factor alone gives our programme of assistance in this area an importance quite separate from its obvious humanitarian value."

Total aid to the countries last year was \$23 million.

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Agriculture, Mr W. R. Austin, headed the delegation, which included other Government MPs, Messrs Derek Angus, Robin Gray and Roger McClay. Labour MPs with Dr Wall were Messrs W. P. Jeffries and Trevor Young.

Dr Wall said political turmoil was seen in Tonga, the Cook Islands, Niue and Western Samoa.

"The conflict between the younger, European-educated progressive elements and the traditional authority structures demonstrated by the all-powerful monarchy

and aristocracy in Tonga, or the matai system in Samoa, were two classic examples of these political tensions," he said.

An "element of uncertainty" remained in the Cook Islands after the general election there three weeks ago.

Deep economic recession was affecting Tonga, the Cooks, Niue and Samoa just as badly as it was affecting New Zealand--"but of course they are having to cut back from a much lower base than does New Zealand."

The more rapid development of a New Zealand-type of parliamentary structure in the Cooks and Niue had not significantly reduced the political problems in these countries.

Dr Wall said the severe impact on their economies had been aggravated by manpower shortages produced "by the freedom of these New Zealanders to migrate to the New Zealand mainland."

CSO: 4200/590

BOB JONES DENIES RIGHT-WING PARTY 'A HOAX'

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 13 Apr 83 p 3

[Text]

A "revolution" in New Zealand politics, in which the National Party would be superseded by an "ideologically true" party of the Right, has been predicted by the Wellington businessman, Mr Bob Jones.

He believes the Labour Party will win the 1984 General Election, hold office for one term, and then at the 1987 polls lose to a Right-wing party.

In Christchurch yesterday Mr Jones said that a Right-wing party would launch itself in the next few months. Details of its support would not be discussed until policies were clearly defined. However, Mr Jones said that recent comments by the Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, that talk of the new party was a hoax were untrue.

"The general public will have to wait and see but discussions are already going on up and down the country about its formation," Mr Jones said.

Until policy details were finalised those backing the party would "stay under wraps." Support came from both sides of Parliament with much of it from dissatisfied National Party members.

National had abandoned its original thinking and was now in "the process of self-destruction."

Mr Jones said he had become disillusioned with the party he formerly supported. It had ignored the law and introduced retrospective legislation to support its actions.

The party had "prostituted its principles" and would be unable to regain them.

"They can never, ever be what they set out to be: a party which supports the rights of the individual above the State," Mr Jones said.

Parties needed clearly prescribed philosophies and to retain credibility they had to stick to them. The

new party would follow its guiding principles.

Both National and Labour had moved away from their original tenets in an attempt to catch the votes of the Centre. "They have sought the middle ground and it has become the muddle ground," he said.

Parliamentary debate had degenerated with both parties able only to criticise each other's management. The National Party would not be an effective Opposition; its slate was not clean so that its basis for criticism was sullied.

Mr Jones's earlier decision to stand against the Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr Templeton, in the Ohariu electorate will stand.

However, he said that instead of standing as an Independent he would probably represent the new party.

"If this thing comes through I will stand as part of it," he said.

CSO: 4200/590

FISHERMEN POWERLESS TO STOP POACHERS

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 12 Apr 83 p 3

[Text] Local fishermen fear an Australian invasion of a major new orange roughy fishing ground--and there is nothing which can be done at present to prevent foreigners from tapping part of this lucrative export catch.

The Challenger Plateau, which lies to the west of New Zealand, could become the country's second most important orange roughy fishing ground, but part of it is outside the 200-mile zone.

A Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries fish scientists, Mr W. van den Broek, was asked by Australian interests to supply data on orange roughy catches in the area.

Mr van den Broek has been doing scientific research on fish stocks in the region and he said the Australian concern was considering sending a 70-metre trawler to fish the area.

In and Out

"It is known that the orange roughy is both inside and outside the 200-mile zone over the plateau," he said.

It was quite possible that for much of the year there was more orange roughy outside the zone than inside, he said.

The irony, according to Mr van den Broek, is that while there is nothing to stop Australian or other foreign boats catching fish on the plateau outside the zone, New Zealand boats cannot work outside without being subject to fish import regulations.

New Zealand orange roughy exports to Australia have been the cause of major rows between the fishermen of both countries because of Australian claims that New Zealand exports are destroying the Australian industry.

Detrimental

If Australian fishermen decide to fish orange roughy just outside the New Zealand zone it could have a detrimental effect on New Zealand exports and on stock management.

Mr van den Broek is most concerned about stock management.

"Fish are no respecters of exclusive economic management boundaries," he said.

"If New Zealand wants to seek control of this stock then there is provision for it to do so under the Law of the Sea agreements, by international agreement," he said.

Venture

Russian trawlers have already been working outside the zone over the plateau, but Mr van den Broek said that the one which worked there last year had co-operated with the New Zealand authorities and made all its catch data available.

The Australian plan was to use a former British Boyd Line trawler similar in size and type to the two now being used by Fletcher Fishing Ltd.

The Australian trawler is believed to be one of a number which were used in an Albany, West Australian, fishing venture which failed.

Mr van den Broek said it was understood that the Australian company was seeking financial support from the Australian Government for the venture.

New Zealand fisheries scientists believe there is an urgent need to press on with more research into orange roughy stocks in order to manage the resource in the best manner.

CSO: 4200/590

BRIEFS

FIRM SELLS TO PRC--The New Zealand-made Poly computers are among the first educational microprocessors chosen for use by China. The Huianan Coal Mining Institute has ordered 13 Poly computers, and further Chinese orders are expected. The orders are the result of a private mission to Peking last November by representatives of one of the computer's developers, Progeni, Lower Hutt. The company's managing director, Mr Perce Harpham, said that China's acceptance of Poly computers further vindicated the efforts of their developers, Wellington Polytechnic, Progeni, and the Development Finance Corporation. [Text] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 12 Apr 83 p 8]

WAGE OFFER REJECTED--The Government's offer of a 2 per cent June wage order was formally rejected by the national council of the Federation of Labour yesterday, which also called for a complete lifting of the freeze on June 23. In addition, the council re-asserted the claim for a \$20 a week across-the-board wage rise but the FOL president, Mr W. J. Knox, later said that if the Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, made an offer close to that figure it would be considered. [Text] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 21 Apr 83 p 1]

LIMIT ON TUNA CATCHES--A trilateral agreement has been reached on the need to preserve southern bluefin tuna stocks. New Zealand, Japanese and Australian scientists and Government officials, in two weeks of meetings at the fishing port of Shimizu and Tokyo, decided that catch limits were needed to maintain the present estimated stock of about 220,000 tonnes of adult bluefin tuna. Japan and Australia are reported to have agreed not to expand their southern water tuna fishing until a further trilateral conference in Canberra this October or November. New Zealand bluefin tuna fishermen are concerned at the level of Australian juvenile tuna catches, which rose from 10,000 tonnes in 1980 to 24,000 tonnes in 1981-82. New Zealand and Japanese fishermen wish to preserve adult tuna stocks for supply to Japan's lucrative market. [Text] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 26 Apr 83 p 4]

IRAN WOOL PURCHASES--Iran is strengthening its purchases of New Zealand wool in both bulk and processed form--perhaps eliminating the need for an oil-for-wool barter. That's according to Woobuyers' Association executive manager, Mr Bill Carter, who believes Iran could this year double its purchases of New Zealand wool from last year's 7000 tonnes. New Zealand sales to Iran

dropped to 7000 tonnes from a high of 18,000 tonnes in 1980-81 and its industry, hit by wartime restrictions, is now working at just 60 percent of its capacity, according to Mr Carter. However, there is strong demand from Iran for longer fleece wools Mr Carter said, both in direct bulk sales and through other countries which processed New Zealand wool into yarn for re-export to Iran. Pakistan was a significant re-exporter of New Zealand wool yarns to Iran and Mr Carter suggested much of the 4600 tonnes shipped to Pakistan up to February would have found its way to Iran. Shipment of New Zealand wool direct to Iran stood at 6700 tonnes to the end of February, with six months still left in the season. Mr Carter believed the fact private exporters were maintaining sales, if indirectly, to Iran meant the Wool Board's embryonic wool-for-oil deal should stay that way. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 21 Apr 83 p 4]

CSO: 4200/590

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES DISPUTE EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS 27 Apr 83 pp 1, 12

[Article by Mel Mauricio]

[Text] A JUSTICE of the Supreme Court yesterday took exceptions to the ruling by the tribunal last week that the SC could not inquire into the acts of the President.

Expressing his opinion in a decision which dismissed two petitions for habeas corpus filed by Horacio Morales Jr. and Antonio C. Moncupa, Justice Hermogenes Concepcion Jr. said the Court "has the authority to inquire" into the acts of the Chief Executive, "in order to determine its constitutional sufficiency."

Concepcion also termed as unconstitutional the "submission that a person may be detained indefinitely without any charges and the courts cannot inquire into the legality of the restraint."

He said this "does violence to the basic precepts of human rights and a democratic society."

THE TRIBUNAL, in a 12 to one decision last Friday, upheld the power of the President to detain indefinitely any person by virtue of a Presidential Commitment Order, and said that this power is absolute and beyond the review of the courts.

The decision, which dismissed the petition for habeas corpus filed by the mother of a Nueva Vizcaya resident who, together with 13 others, had been arrested by military men in 1982 while allegedly plotting to infiltrate the youth and student sector in the province, also noted that the President alone can release the arrested persons from detention, "even if charges have already been filed in court."

CONCEPCION SAID, however, that the court, by virtue of its judicial power of review and by constitutional mandate, can and must inquire into every phase and aspect of the arrested person's detention.

"Only after such a scrutiny can the court satisfy itself that the due process clause of the Constitution has in fact been satisfied," Concepcion added.

Chief Justice Enrique M. Fernando, in a separate opinion, agreed with Concepcion, reiterating the power of the SC to inquire into presidential actions.

Fernando, together with Justice Claudio Teehankee, dissented from the Court's ruling last week, to the effect that the SC can not look into the acts of the President.

CSO: 4200/586

PAPER COMPANY SUFFERS P308 MILLION LOSSES IN 1982

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 83 p 9

[Text] PAPER Industries Corp. of the Philippines (PICOP) yesterday reported that it suffered losses of P308 million last year.

In an annual report, PICOP chairman and chief executive officer, Andres Soriano Jr., blamed the losses to weak markets and high financial charges.

He added that because of said to the continuing recession, markets for the firm's paper and timber products remained very weak resulting in a 14-percent decline in total sales--from P1.073 billion in 1981 to P119 million in 1982.

But despite difficulties, compounded by a freak typhoon in March that caused extensive damage to its infrastructure and industrial tree plantation in Bislig, Soriano said the company was able to improve efficiency and this achievement, combined with an effective and continuing cost reduction program, enabled PICOP to post a modest operating profit.

However, this operating profit was wiped out by high financial charges amounting to P294 million which the company had to contend with during the year.

PICOP last year, availed itself of a P350-million loan from the industrial fund of the Central Bank to sustain operations.

Soriano also reported the following:

--PICOP was able to develop the technical capability to produce a specialty groundwood paper that compares favorably with rotogravure newsprint. The new product has superior qualities suitable for magazine and book printing.

--It has completed its long-term plan up to the year 2000. The plan was prepared as part of the overall strategic planning program of its general managers. A Soriano Corp., and seeks to build on corporate strengths while allowing the company to withdraw gradually from less profitable product lines.

PHILIPPINES

GUAM GOVERNOR REQUESTS MORE FILIPINO WORKERS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Apr 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] MORE FILIPINO workers are needed in Guam because of the construction boom in the American territory.

This information was relayed to President Marcos by Gov. Ricardo J. Bordallo of Guam during the latter's courtesy call at Malacanang yesterday.

Bordallo, accompanied by nine officials, is here to promote closer economic relations between Guam and the Philippines.

DURING their meeting, Bordallo also informed the President of his desire for Philippine Airlines to fly to Guam and the promotion of tourism along mutually beneficial lines.

"Let us arrange meetings between members of the Cabinet and government officials and members of the delegation on subjects brought to my attention which are of interest to all," the President said.

If it can be arranged, PAL will schedule flights to Guam, the President assured the visiting governor.

EARLIER, Governor Bordallo presented the President and the First Lady with the Ancient Order of the Chammori, which reflects the tradition of the Chamorro tribes, the aborigines of the Marianas.

"Guam has always looked at the Philippines as a cousin, and we share much common history, culture and tradition," the governor said. "With this award we extend deep gratitude for what we recognize to be your contribution to the growth of our Territory."

The governor pointed out that Guam was heavily damaged in the war and that it was Filipino artisans and professionals who came after World War II, to give a helping hand.

NOTING the similarity of the Ancient Order of the Chammori to the Ancient Order of Sikatuna which predates the Spanish regime, the President said the

Philippines is trying to re-establish its old roots and is tracing its origin in Asia.

The President said that since Guam and the Philippines are sister countries, Filipinos going to Guam find themselves at home there.

CSO: 4200/586

MARCOS ISSUES TWO REFORESTATION DIRECTIVES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 83 pp 1, 6

[Text] PRESIDENT MARCOS has ordered every barangay and municipality or city to develop and maintain tree parks "to enhance the beauty and ecosystem of our communities."

He said these forest or tree parks would also provide the people with a health and wholesome environment and places for rest and recreation.

In Letter of Instruction 1312, the President explained that there is need for the people to appreciate the importance of preserving our forests and restoring at the earliest possible time our denuded areas.

IN ANOTHER LOI, the President ordered the Ministry of Natural Resources to give priority to local governments in the issuance of salvage permits for timber and other forest products.

The two directives are part of the government's continuing reforestation efforts and the propagation of income-generating programs through the utilization of abandoned timber products.

The President noted that in the completion of local infrastructure projects, considerable volume of timber is utilized annually causing a drain in the budget of local governments at the expense of other productive ventures.

He said a substantial volume of timber and forest products are also laid to waste as a result of typhoons, floods and other natural calamities, including illegal cuttings by forest occupants and timber smugglers.

"The salvaging and utilization of these abandoned timber and other forest products will in great measure contribute to the forest conservation effort of the government, and at the same time provide the much-needed assistance to local government projects," the President said.

IN THE ESTABLISHMENT of the parks, the President said that one park shall be put up for every barangay, municipality or city. In the case of urban areas, the municipal or city government shall provide forest or tree parks in suitable and accessible areas for several barangays who shall assist in the project.

The President said the Ministry of Natural Resources, whenever possible, shall allocate from lands of the public domain appropriate areas and sites to be devoted by said political units for establishments of such parks, with the Bureau of Forest Development providing seedlings and technical assistance in the development and care of said tree parks, and undertaking intensive forest renewal, forest protection.

THE PRESIDENT ALSO:

--Ordered the Ministry of Human Settlements to see to it that the land use plans of every municipality or city shall provide for appropriate forest or tree parks, coordinate with the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Local Governments in the planning of new, and the renewal of existing communities to include the creation of forest and tree parks.

--Directed the Ministry of Local Governments to see to it that the forest and tree parks "are in fact established and developed and that appropriate resources are earmarked by the political units concerned for the creation and maintenance of said areas."

Supervision of the establishment and development of the forest and tree parks shall be jointly exercised by the three ministries. They shall draw such joint agreements, rules and regulations and work programs for the efficient implementation of the President's instructions.

CSO: 4200/586

SECURITIES, EXCHANGE COMMISSION HALTS FINANCE FIRM'S OPERATIONS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS In English 27 Apr 83 p 8

[Article by Ray Magallanes]

[Text] THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has ordered Corporate Resources Financing Corp. (CRFC) to stop its operations indefinitely for defaulting on its obligations to several investors.

Meanwhile, the SEC is studying the feasibility of attaching some properties of the corporate officers of Solid Finance Corp. (SFC) to pay off claims of creditors totalling about P200 million.

Makati-based CRFC has failed to redeem matured commercial papers (CPs) worth P6.1 million, according to the SEC.

Aurelio Santos, CRFC president, claimed his company encountered liquidity problems brought about by the failure of its borrowers to settle their obligations on time. The company was engaged in short-term money market transactions.

But the SEC said is it considering CRFC's proposal to restructure its debt payments, without prejudice to SEC's filing of the proper charges against the finance company for violating money market rules.

IN another development, the SEC said it intends to initiate attachment proceedings against the other assets and properties of Antonio K. Paredes, the late SFC president, and those of his children to pay off creditors of the finance company.

The four Paredes children abandoned the AFC office in Binondo shortly after the death of their father last September. Their whereabouts could not be traced up to now, although industry sources claimed the Paredes children are in Taipei.

SEC probers said the late Antonio K. Paredes left substantial shareholdings in other companies, which the SEC is still verifying.

SEC investigators are having difficulty in tracing the missing records of SFC, which observers theorized have been kept in places unknown to the Paredes children and his business associates.

BRIEFS

BANK OF AMERICA LOAN--BANK of America (Manila branch) has syndicated an P80-million loan for Monterey Farms Corp. The bank said that two local unibanks, Bank of P.I. and Far East Bank and Trust Co., participated in the loan syndication. Proceeds of the loan will be used by Monterey Farms for its expansion program. The agreement on the syndicated loan was signed recently by Richard Arendt, BA vice president and Manila branch manager; Carlos Villa-Abrille and Antonio Climent, president and board chairman, respectively, of Monterey Farms; Josie Tan of FEBTC and Rod Supena of BPI. [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 83 p 10]

REBEL PRIEST BELIEVED ILL--CAMP DANGWA, Benguet--Military authorities here have confirmed intelligence reports that Fr. Conrado Balweg, a rebel priest with P200,000 price on his head, is sick and is seeking medical help. This was disclosed yesterday by Brig. Gen. Victorino T. Azada, PCINP Ilocos region commander, as he denied earlier newspaper reports that Balweg was among those involved in a raid by the New People's Army three weeks ago at the town hall of Tabo, Abra. "Balweg, at the time of the raid, was not in the area nor was he within the vicinity of Abra," Azada said. AZADA QUOTED an intelligence report that Balweg was asking medical help somewhere else. He did not say where, adding it was "a security matter." Answering questions from newsmen, Azada said: "How can a sick man possibly lead a raid?" Azada said that if the report is true, "I am willing to send a medical team from Camp Dangwa to help him." [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Apr 83 p 10]

POLYESTER EXPORTS--FILIPINAS Synthetic Fiber Corp. (FILSYN) yesterday reported that it exported last year 3 million kilos of polyester worth P68 million. The company said it exported polyester to Pakistan, Korea, Hongkong, USA, China and Australia. Of the P68 million, P46 million were direct exports while P22 million were purchased by local textile millers to be processed for exports. Direct export receipts amounted to \$5.5 million or \$2.1 million more than its export receipts of \$3.4 million in 1981. [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 83 p 9]

COCOBANK RAISES CAPITAL--UNITED Coconut Planters Bank (Cocobank) is raising its capital stock from P1 billion to P3.25 billion. The bank's capital build-up program, which has been submitted to the Monetary Board for approval, was approved by stockholders during a special meeting recently. Of the increase in capital stock, 750 million will be in the form of preferred shares at P1

per share or a total of P750 million. Bank sources said they will be offered to investors who would avail themselves of the bank's various services. THE preferred shares are non-voting but have a yield of 14 percent per annum. Sources revealed that Cocobank intends to use the preferred shares to raise funds without fixed maturities and to broaden its funding base. Other universal banks have already issued preferred, non-voting shares to the public to increase their equity base. Officials of Cocobank are reportedly negotiating with some clients for them to subscribe to the preferred issues. [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Apr 83 p 8]

CSO: 4200/586

MELANESIAN ALLIANCE PROPOSED TO PROTECT FISHING GROUNDS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 17 Mar 83 p 8

[Text] Port Moresby, 16 March--The Solomon Islands has proposed a Melanesian alliance which would include the sharing of patrol boats with Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu to protect fishing grounds from foreign trawlers.

The idea emerged today in a joint communique issued in Port Moresby after four days of talks between the Solomon Islands Foreign Minister, Mr Dennis Lulei, and his PNG counterpart, Mr Rabbie Namaliu.

The Ministers said such an alliance would not mean a formal treaty or any breaking away from the South Pacific Community.

Mr Lulei said the alliance could include closer ties in cultural, social, political, economic and security matters. He would like to see a summit involving the three Prime Ministers, sporting carnivals and co-operation in surveillance of fishing waters.

"The three countries share common borders and fisheries," Mr Lulei said. "We are trying to get patrol boats with aid dollars and whilst that is current we feel PNG and Vanuatu in the absence of Solomon Island patrol boats could help out.

"PNG has already been helpful to us in the recent past in identifying ships which have encroached into our waters."

The Solomon Islands has been investigating buying long-range patrol boats in Taiwan and Australia. "Just last week the DCP (Defence Co-operation Programme) flew from Australia for discussions," Mr Lulei said.

Another delegation was going to Honiara to frame specific proposals.

Mr Namaliu said he and Mr Lulei realised other Pacific countries might have reservations about the alliance.

"Melanesia is the biggest sub-group in this region and it (the alliance) could be easily misunderstood by our neighbors," he said. "We have no intention of forming another regional organisation to supersede the ones we are now members of."

CSO: 4200/562

NEW CABINET PROSPECTS DISCUSSED

BK090143 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 9 May 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Stability Is Key Factor in New Government"]

[Text] Although a coalition government had been predicted even when elections were announced, it took 19 days before a workable formula was found. The delay was worth the result and we would join Social Action Party leader M. R. Khukrit Pramot in saying that the coalition is viable and, barring accidents, should be able to work together for its full tenure. But there are no certainties in politics especially as we are feeling our way very carefully toward the attainment of full democracy.

Unfortunately the immediate post-election verbal ploys and counterploys were so strident that Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon announced that he was retiring from politics. We would not say that Prem was employing astute political tactics because the voters had returned two parties with almost equal number of votes in the House of Representatives, and he had foreseen that anything ideal like a SAP-Chat Thai [Chat Thai] coalition would be unworkable. Only under intense pressure--we expect that included the military, too--did Prem accept to become the next prime minister.

But let us go back to the election results and comparison with similar forms of parliamentary democracy. SAP won the largest number of seats closely followed by Chat Thai, although CT claimed later it had won over several defectors. Normally, the party with the largest number of seats, if it has not won a majority, forms the government with sympathetic parties joining the coalition. The party with the second largest number of seats forms the opposition in the House.

So, despite all the verbiage and behind the scenes activities, that was what has emerged, and that was what the voters would have wished since the role of the opposition must never be underrated. By acting as the watchdog of the government, and provoking debate in the House on key issues that affect the nation, the opposition should be able to keep the government on its toes. This happens all the time in Britain where if the Conservatives are in power, Labour is in opposition and vice versa.

The problem with Chat Thai is that it has never been in the opposition in the coalition governments we have recently had. Since 1975 (forgetting one year of civilian dictatorship) Chat Thai has always been part of the coalition and that might initially distort the party's view when functioning as an opposition. But we are confident that Chat Thai will perform its key function as the watchdog of the government with its customary zeal.

Despite the exclusion of Chat Thai from the line-up of the Cabinet, we see little possibility of major changes in policy. Naturally major changes are not only discussed by the Cabinet but also debated in Parliament with senators also making useful contribution. But in the implementation also there should be little change because the important portfolios--defence, interior, finance and foreign affairs--are in the same hands. Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila re-appointment to his former position will not only be welcomed by our ASEAN partners but also by every country with whom we maintain friendly relations.

Under Prem's stewardship, we are confident that the political parties involved in the coalition can be held together, because not only has he the high respect of the politicians and the military, but also is adored by the general public. Thailand has crossed another hurdle smoothly and there are few clouds in the horizon.

CSO: 4200/575

DIFFICULTIES FACED BY NEW GOVERNMENT VIEWED

BK090200 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 May 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Difficult Task for New Cabinet"]

[Text] The new post-election Prem Tinsulanon Cabinet is such a mixture of parties and personalities that it is difficult to judge how the government will do on any affair of state. Policies between parties are not compatible, and there are personality conflicts. All of these make for a situation where it is not going to be easy to form a consensus.

This problem will exist in matters of political ideology, economic policy and social attitude. The Social Action Party which has been described as a "capitalist" party--a claim it has denied--considers itself economic experts and as such has the Commerce and Agriculture Ministries. It is expected to take care of price guarantees for farm commodities and for their marketing abroad.

But the Industry Ministry whose field of responsibility extends over the processing of agricultural products, the production of import substitutes and export-oriented goods, comes under the National Democracy Party which is considered as standing somewhere between conservatism and liberalism but which is represented in the ministry by a businessman.

Then, again, another ministry concerned with economic development, that of communications, is handled by the leader of the Prachakon Thai Party which is regarded, rightly or wrongly, as a "rightist" party. The Prachakon Thai Party has its main base in Bangkok whereas the SAP has built up foundations in the rural areas.

Whether it is possible to get all these parties to formulate a common economic policy and implement it remains to be seen. Or will the various parties be allowed to go their separate ways in the fields for which they are given responsibility? Unlike the previous government, each party not only holds the minister's post but also the positions of the deputies.

This is an important point since economic problems are the chief national worry at the present. There appears to be a resurgence from the global recession, and Thailand has to take advantage of it. It is fortunate that

General Prem has retained the highly professional services of Mr Sommai Huntrakun as finance minister. Since Mr Sommai is General Prem's own choice, it may be advisable for the prime minister to appoint him to take overall charge of economic affairs. That means, he should coordinate and direct the policies of the various economic ministers.

Of course, the Council of Economic Ministers headed by the prime minister must be revived for periodic conferences on major economic problems but Mr Sommai should have control of day-to-day operations in the economic ministries without too much interference in the work of each ministry, leaving room for initiative and enterprise.

The practice of close consultations between the government and the private sector has been most successful in bringing about greater cooperation to the benefit of the country and the people. Such consultations should continue to be held. In these ways the prime minister may be able to overcome the differences in policy and attitude among the coalition partners of the government and make the country once again an economically viable concern.

CSO: 4200/575

RIFT BETWEEN CHAT THAI, SAP NOTED

BK060636 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 May 83 p 3

[Text] A rift between the Chat Thai and the Social Action [SAP] Parties widened yesterday when Chat Thai leader Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan said that he disliked the SAP.

He was referring to a conversation on Tuesday between him and Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon.

Major-General Praman said that General Prem asked him whether his party would join a coalition government to which he replied that it would be up to the premier.

He said: "I had always maintained that I would join any party, but the SAP made it clear that it hated us. What do you expect us to do in this case?"

Major-General Praman said his dislike of the SAP had nothing to do with the feud between SAP leader M. R. Khukrit Pramot and Chat Thai's deputy leader Dr Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri.

M. R. Khukrit said on Monday that his party could never join any government that included Chat Thai as long as Dr Anuwat was in that party.

"When he (Dr Anuwat) leaves the party then we can talk again," M. R. Khukrit said.

Dr Anuwat yesterday told reporters that M. R. Khukrit should remember his promise that the SAP would quit the coalition if the government supported an amendment to the Constitution.

Dr Anuwat also reminded the SAP leader of the oil telex scandal.

"There is no way I can make up with him. I have declared that I no longer have any respect for him, and I meant what I said," Dr Anuwat stated.

Colonel Phon Roengprasoetwit yesterday confirmed that he and 21 other MPs from the Siam Democratic Party (SDP) had resigned from the party. He said he is now a registered member of the Chat Thai Party.

Colonel Phon was the SDP leader when he and other SDP MPs joined the Chat Thai Party on April 21, a day before the Political Party Act was enforced.

However, the colonel denied claims that the SDP is now defunct, saying that it still remains intact and that someone else might take over as party leader.

Colonel Phon explained that he wanted to comply with the Political Party Act by intending to dissolve the SDP because according to the Act a political party may be dissolved if it fails to field more than 162 candidates or half of the total number of representatives in the House.

Another reason why he left the SDP was that the SDP won only 18 seats, which was too small a number to do anything, he said. Four independent MPs later joined Colonel Phon's party.

"I would prefer to join with the military. That's why I stayed with the Chat Thai Party," he said.

Colonel Phon said that two of his MPs had been "bought" by a major political party. He refused to identify the two MPs, however.

Major-General Praman claimed that reports that the SDP had been dissolved were aimed at damaging the reputation of the Chat Thai.

Asked if the Prachakon Thai Party had been in touch with him recently, Major-General Praman said that, unlike in the past, that party now seemed to be distancing itself from Chat Thai.

Major-General Praman reiterated that his party would be ready to accept either the role of a coalition partner or the opposition. "It would be up to General Prem," he added.

CSO: 4200/575

POLITICAL CLIMATE SCARES OFF PHAK MAI DEFECTOR

BK110115 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 11 May 83 p 6

[Text] A senior leader of the Thai pro-Vietnam communist faction, who was thinking of defecting, recently sought refuge at the Thai Embassy in Vientiane, but changed his mind at the last minute in the wake of the dissolution of the House of Representatives last March, a well-informed source told THE NATION yesterday.

The source said that Wichai Sewamat, deputy leader of the pro-Vietnam Phak Mai Party, told embassy officials that he was unsure of the political climate in this country.

Wichai left the embassy after staying there a few days, according to the source.

"It is disappointing that Wichai changed his mind, otherwise we could have acquired in depth information about the Laos-based Communist Party," he added.

According to the source, the Royal Decree to dissolve the House of Representatives and call snap general elections on April 18 prompted the Phak Mai deputy leader to have second thoughts and change his mind. The decree was issued on March 19.

Wichai, a member of the now defunct Socialist Party of Thailand, is one of the two deputy leaders of the Phak Mai Party, nominally headed by former Ubon Ratchathani MP Bunyen Wothong. The other deputy leader has been identified as Wichai Hinkaeo. All three are former Ubon Rathchathani MPs.

Intelligence reports, however, have shown that leaders of the Phak Mai Party include Vietnamese and Lao. Thai intelligence officers have discovered a Vietnamese, Nguyen Van Thach, and a Laotian, Sali Vongkamsao, among the Phak Mai leaders.

Bunyen has from time to time reportedly wavered to surrender to the government, but the reports were never confirmed.

CSO: 4200/575

NEW BID TO EXTEND SENATORS' POWERS

BK090157 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 May 83 p 1

[Article by The Chongkhadikit]

[Text] Efforts are underway to extend senators' powers and get permanent officials appointed to Cabinet posts through interpretation of the Constitution.

An interpretation requires only a simple majority of those present in a joint parliamentary session while a constitutional amendment bill needs the votes of more than half of Parliament, which comprises of the 324-seat House of Representatives and the 243-seat Senate.

A proposal for an interpretation needs to be signed by only 30 MPs, instead of one-third of the House membership needed for an amendment bill.

The proponents are also expected to call for other constitutional interpretations.

Their basis for such a proposal is that the holding of the general elections on April 18, before the expiry of the Constitution's transitory provisions, makes the provisions still applicable to the present situation just as the MPs elected on that date continue to be MPs.

The motion which will not be initiated by the Government is expected to be challenged by at least the Democrat Party, a coalition partner, and, perhaps even the Social Action Party [SAP], the main participant in the government. However, the SAP may be persuaded to permit a free vote by its members.

With the senators retaining the right to discuss and vote on matters concerning the Constitution, the proponents hope that the interpretation will be passed by a simple majority of those present at the joint session.

Since no amendments bill will be presented to Parliament, it is also hoped that there would be no furor on the controversial issues and that the parties which campaigned against the amendments during the election and then joined the government would be spared embarrassment.

The plan for an interpretation of the Constitution, expected to be submitted soon, is being worked upon as it is realised that the coalition lacks the essential ingredients for Thai-style political stability.

The ingredierts are considered to be military participation and inclusion of technocrats to work together with the politicians--the military to provide security and the technocrats bureaucratic cooperation.

At present, according to political observers, the major parties in the coalition appear to place themselves in an adversary position with the military having campaigned hard against what they called "dictatorship."

On the other hand, except for the prime minister, a retired respected general, and a pro-military party in the coalition, the military seems to generally consider big parties as "capitalists."

According to the sources, one of the major objectives of the proposed interpretation is to eliminate such mutual mistrust and thus ensure closer cooperation between the government and the military as well as the bureaucracy.

CSO: 4200/575

SPLIT SEEN DEVELOPING IN LABOR MOVEMENT

BK040226 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 May 83 p 2

[Text] About 80 unions of the Labour Congress of Thailand (LCT) plan to defect to its rival faction, the Thai Trade Union Confederation (TTUC) headed by Phaisan Thawatchainan, a labour leader said yesterday.

Mr Ekkachai Ekhamkamon, president of the Metropolitan Water Works Authority (MWWA) labour union, said his union which claimed a membership of about 4,200 workers would also leave the LCT and join with the TTUC. Mr Ekkachai is also deputy secretary-general of the TTUC.

He said about 30 unions belonging to the Phaisan faction in the LCT had decided to leave the Ahmed Khamthethong-Sawat Lukdot faction.

Fifty other unions would follow suit, but have yet to reach a final decision in a meeting, Mr Ekkachai said.

"These unions have stopped paying their membership fees to the LCT for more than three months, which means that they automatically lost their legal status as members," he said.

According to an LCT rule concerning the status of a member, a union will be terminated from its membership if it fails to pay membership fee for three consecutive months.

The LCT, headed by Ahmad, claims a membership of 173 unions. Its status and strength in the labour movement will be greatly diminished by the split.

The MWWA labour leader charged that the LCT no longer represented the interest of workers. He said these unions wanted to leave the LCT and join the TTUC because they claimed that the LCT had compromised itself and had no firm policies regarding labour.

Mr Phaisan was president of the LCT for several years, but was ousted by the Ahmad-Sawat faction last year. After his defeat Paisal formed the TTUC.

Mr Ekkachai said the TTUC will register with the Labour Department with initially about 30 unions as members, 15 more than what is needed to become a legal labour organisation. "We will truly work to represent the workers' interests and to improve their condition. The TTUC has no political ambition and does not work to strive for political gains," he added.

LOCAL COMMUNISTS SEEK BURMESE PARTY AID

BK090822 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 9 May 83 p 1

[Text] Chiang Mai--The Communist Party of Thailand has made advances to the Burma Communist Party (BCP) in an effort to forge a link between the two pro-Beijing groups, a senior police officer said here this morning.

The alliance attempt came in the wake of anticommunist operations in Nan and Chiang Rai and the drive against Shan narcotics dealer Khun Sa on whom the BCP had been relying for trade, said Pol Maj-Gen Suphan Phongthong, director of information for the combined civilian, police and military operations, Zone 5.

Major-General Suphan, who is also commander of the Provincial Police Zone 7, said the first moves had been initiated by conservative elements within the CPT, many of whom are hilltribesmen.

The CPT leaders had felt the need to cooperate with the BCP because of the loss of their traditional sanctuary in Laos.

The Thai communists in the North had broken up into small groups and moved to areas of Mae Hong Son Province as well as Fang, Chiang Dao and Mae Ai districts of Chiang Mai, Maj-Gen Suphan said.

Partly to counter this, the army has sent special action units to operate in Mae Ai and Chiang Dao.

At the same time, a crackdown on the Shan United Army [SUA] under Khun Sa in early 1982 had disrupted trade between the BCP and the SUA which had been helping finance BCP operations.

The SUA was driven out of Ban Hin Taek in Mae Chan District of Chiang Rai into an area of Burma opposite Mae Hong Son, forcing members of the BCP in areas opposite Mae Chan and Mae Ai to break up due to lack of funds, Maj-Gen Suphan said.

CSO: 4200/575

BRIEFS

CHIANG MAI VILLAGE ATTACK--Chiang Mai--A member of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) was killed in Mae Ai District last night in what was described as the first ever battle between the Burmese communist forces and Thai forces on Thai territory. The clash took place after a party of BCP men looted the house of a villager in Ban Hat Chomphu in Tambon Tha Ton, police reported. Police said they had received a report that about 10 men had raided the house of Mr Praphan Khammi in Tha Ton and had stolen many items from the houses including food and clothing. Acting on information, a combined force of Border Patrol Police and Mae Ai district police later went to Hua Huai Sala in Tambon Tha Ton and found about 30 men who turned out to be members of the BCP led by a man named Cha Bo. A 20-minute gunbattle broke out about 9 p.m. after which the BCP retreated into an area of Chiang Rai Province, pursued by a unit of the combined Thai forces. A search of the battle scene later revealed the body of a BCP terrorist, a CKC rifle with 10 rounds of ammunition and 10 stolen items from Mr Praphan's house. Police believed that many terrorists were also wounded in the fighting. [Text] [BK090820 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 9 May 83 n 1]

ARMORED AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE--An armoured amphibious vehicle claimed to be better than the American-made V150 was built by the Thai armed forces' Ordnance Department last year. The vehicle which will be useful in suppressing revolts and uprisings, was produced as a prototype of the Fiat Mellela 6614 model, for which Fiat Company supplied the design and plans. Parts were purchased from Italy and assembled at the Department's facilities. After its successful production, the vehicle was shown at the 200th military fair in Bangkok by the Supreme Command headquarters. The ability to assemble such an armoured vehicle within one month has given added skills and technical know-how to the personnel of the Ordnance Department, the officer in charge of its construction, Captain Aphichat Thimsuwan said. He felt that local production will have the advantage of making repairs and parts replacements without delay, unlike imported models. The light-axle vehicle can operate in all types of terrain and water while the V150 is a heavy-axled vehicle and not for rough terrain use, claimed the captain. Suited for use in police riot control and guarding roads, it is safe from small arms fire and mines. The Thai army is to consider ordering this vehicle but the air force is known to be acquiring them. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENSE JOURNAL in English Mar 83 p 3]

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC RELATIONS AGREEMENT--PA Auckland--The Tongan Government will keep an anxious eye on the closer economic relations agreement between New Zealand and Australia. The secretary to the Tongan Government, Mr Taniela Tufui, said in Auckland that if the agreement led to free trade between New Zealand and Australia, Tongan trade could be jeopardised. Although there was an agreement giving preferential rights to goods from the islands, Mr Tufui was still concerned about how far the safeguard would be protected. "We will keep a close eye on C.E.R. to see how far it develops and the implications for the islands," he said. Mr Tufui led a five-member trade mission to attract New Zealand businesses and manufacturers to Tonga. The mission spent a week in New Zealand. [Text] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 27 Apr 83 p 30]

TRADE, TAX INCENTIVES--Tongan officials bearing tax and trade incentives are in Wellington to attract industry to their islands. Led by the secretary to the government, Taniela Tufui, the five-man delegation of senior public servants and ministers has met manufacturers and discussed the incentives Tonga can offer New Zealand industrialists--propositions already taken up by a number of New Zealand companies. The delegation is here for the annual Tonga/New Zealand bilateral trade talks with the Department of Trade and Industry and will meet the Minister of Overseas Trade, Mr Cooper, today. Tonga and the department are working to reduce the trade imbalance between the two countries, currently running about six to one in New Zealand's favour. Tax incentives are among the goodies on offer for investors in the islands, in addition to duty-free access to the Australian and New Zealand markets for most exports from Pacific Forum countries under the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement (Sparteca). Notable among the early New Zealand investors in Tonga is F C Matthews, Ltd, manufacturer of soccer and rugby balls, which has now based its entire manufacturing operation in Tonga using skilled local labour and exporting balls back to New Zealand. However, investment in the Pacific islands is a sensitive topic with New Zealand manufacturers, some of whom can take advantage of the Sparteca free trade pact, while others feel materially hurt both in New Zealand and Australian markets by duty-free, low labour-cost goods. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 21 Apr 83 p 10]

AUSTERITY BUDGET HITS WESTERN SAMOANS HARD

Aukland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 19 Apr 83 p 13

[Text] Western Samoans are starting to reel under the effects of the Government's austerity budget, but it is hoped that major aid donor countries and organisations can assist.

In his first budget since being elected, the Prime Minister, Tofilau Eti, who is also the Minister of Finance, has taken the bull by the horns to try to restore the nation's economy.

The full effects of the budget are now beginning to be felt as the Assistant Minister of Finance, Tui Laepa, sets off for Geneva and a round table conference of the least developed nations of Asia and the Pacific.

Starts on May 9, is being sponsored by the United Nations Development Project and it will allow the least developed countries to discuss their problems with the major aid donor countries and multilateral funding organisations. [Paragraph as published]

The prices of imported goods in Western Samoa have soared from the effect of the 16 per cent devaluation of the tala, the duty increase of 4 per cent and the assessing of duty on the full cost of the goods in foreign exchange.

Increases

Until this year, only petroleum products had their duty assessed on the value of the products plus expenses on cartage, insurance and freight. Since March 22, the day the budget legislation became law, all goods landing in Samoa became subject to duty on the CIF (cost, insurance and freight) value.

The change has resulted in marked increases in the duty of some goods.

Duty for the first load of sugar arriving under the new rates, for instance, rose by more than 350 per cent.

Under the old system the 360-bag load would have been levied duty of \$235. Based on its CIF value this became \$957.

Last week, the Commerce Board granted a 57 sene increase to the prices of petrol, diesoline and kerosene.

According to the board the rises were to make up for the 16 per cent devaluation, but in percentage terms the rises were 17.7 for petrol, 18.7 for diesoline and 20.8 for kerosene. A gallon of petrol is now \$3.87, diesoline \$3.62 and kerosene \$3.31.

Transport

The rural population will suffer the most for these rises, because nearly all of them use kerosene for lighting and must pay more for transport.

Any of them who may wish to escape the escalating cost of living will have to make a last contribution at the airport.

The 66 per cent rise in the departure tax has been in effect for nearly two months, and Polynesian Airlines slapped an 11 per cent fare increase from last week.

For those who remain, belt-tightening is the name of the game. Water rates have gone up to \$8 a tap, an increase of 100 per cent, with a maximum of \$32 a year

Birth certificates now cost 100 per cent more at \$2 each, a rise that will hit parents with young children to enrol at schools, and must produce these certificates.

As from the second term parents who have children in the main Government schools in Apia will also pay higher school fees, but for now the rates remain secret.

35 pc Rise

The full effect of the Government's harsh measures are yet to be fully felt, but one prediction is that the overall rise in the cost of living will not be less than 35 per cent.

In presenting the budget to Parliament and the country, the Prime Minister said the main objective were:

- To curb domestic demand, thereby restraining imports and cut inflationary pressures.
- To halt the Governments borrowing from the banking system through overdrafts.

- To encourage the steady growth of the private sector of the economy.
- To facilitate the diversion of resources into both the export-substitution sectors.
- To strengthen the balance of payments position and facilitate repayment of external arrears at an early date.

CSO: 4200/557

WESTERN SAMOA

WESTERN SAMOANS SEEKING SUPPORT FROM NEW ZEALAND

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 16 Apr 83 p 22

[Text] APIA (Western Samoa), April 14--A Western Samoan delegation visited Wellington this week to seek New Zealand support for badly needed financial assistance from the world's developed nations.

The delegation, headed by associate Finance Minister, Tuilaepa Sailele, have left Wellington after four days of talks, to continue their mission in Canberra.

The Samoans are seeking New Zealand and Australian support for a package of financial requests they will be presenting to the United Nations Development Programme in Geneva early next month.

The Geneva meeting will feature talks between the world's developed countries and the least developed countries (LDC), of which Western Samoa is one.

A spokesman for the Economic Development Department in Apia said Samoa was seeking additional assistance from developed countries through the United Nations Development Programme, rather than asking New Zealand and Australia to step up their bilateral aid.

"This way, island countries in the region receiving bilateral aid from New Zealand and Australia may not feel they are being treated unfairly," he said.

Western Samoa is listed as one of seven least developed countries in Asia and the Pacific.

Government officials in Apia have said they are seeking additional assistance of about \$NZ25 million for the period 1983-85, making total aid for the period about \$NZ90 million.

With public morale sapped by food shortages, rising prices and other effects of an austerity programme recently introduced, the Government spelled out its development strategy and efforts to acquire assistance from overseas in a nationwide radio broadcast.

Food shortages and soaring prices have resulted from the austerity programme, because imports of essential goods, especially foodstuffs, are being controlled.

Inflation is estimated to be running at upwards of 35 percent.

Foodstuffs such as rice, flour and herrings imported on a low-price quality basis as specified by the Government are of poor quality.

Cigarettes

A recent shipment of 5000 bags of rice from Taiwan had to be fumigated when quarantine officials discovered at least five different species of insects in them.

Cigarettes manufactured locally are in short supply because the New Zealand supplier of raw materials, Rothmans (New Zealand) Ltd withheld supply until a multimillion-dollar debt was markedly reduced.

The full extent of the Government's request for overseas financial assistance will not be released until the proposals have been submitted to the Geneva meeting next month.

But Western Samoans have been told that more aid was needed to reduce the budget deficit and cut the rising balance of payments gap.

The Government said the imposition of the recent tough economic measures, including higher customs and excise duties, a public service wage freeze for 1983, reduced imports and higher interest rates were designed specially for this purpose.

The measures, the Government says, would increase government revenues by about \$5.2 million, an increase of 18 percent over 1982.

When the 1983 budget was tabled in Parliament in February, the Government said the country's total internal and external debt was more than \$NZ100 million.

This was mainly due to depressed world market prices for exports and stagnation in production. The Government has announced that it will give priority to agriculture which provides 80 percent of the island state's exports and encourage manufacturing for exports.

In Wellington, New Zealand officials confirmed that the delegation had met the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Cooper, and the head of the department, Mr Merwyn Norrish.

The Samoans also met all ambassadors accredited to Western Samoa to explain their case and ask their support for the Geneva meeting.

CSO: 4200/557

AGRICULTURE

STRENGTHENING OF LAND MANAGEMENT URGED

Hanoi KHOA HOC VA KY THUAT NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese Feb 83 pp 51-54

[Article by Ton Gia Huyen: "Strengthen Land Management To Serve the Development of Agricultural Production"]

[Text] Our existing land is the result of a process of thousands of years of creative labor and arduous struggle on the part of our people. It is an extremely precious natural resource, a special, irreplaceable production means of agriculture and forestry, and the sphere for the distribution of population, the deployment and construction of the economic, cultural, and social sectors, and the consolidation of national defense.

Although Vietnam has considerable land (33 million hectares, 58th in the world), it has a large population (it is one of the 15 most populous countries in the world) so its average per-capita land area is very small (.6 hectares), ranking 159th among the 200 countries at present.

Vietnam is situated in a humid tropical region. Because of the high atmospheric temperature, there is a high degree of mineralization. The soil is easily washed away and eroded, soil fertility easily degenerates, and the quality of the soil changes with a tendency disadvantageous for cultivation. It would be very difficult to restore the soil to its original condition.

Agricultural production accounts for only about 21 percent of Vietnam's land. About 35 percent of the land is used for forestry and 4 percent is used for other specialized purposes. Thus more than one-third of the land is not yet fully utilized to bring about real benefit for the national economy.

Of the nearly 7 million hectares now being used for agricultural production, about two-third are used to grow rice, one-fifth is used to grow subsidiary food crops, one-twenty third is pastureland (of which sown grass accounts for only 3.5 percent), and one-sixtieth consists of bodies of water used in agriculture.

Many rice-growing areas have attained yields of 100 quintals per hectare on a large scale, but the national average is only about 22 quintals per hectare. Although rice yields are not yet high and are unstable, there are clearly still many very great capabilities for intensive cultivation. Furthermore, while

Some areas grow four crops a year, and other areas usually grow three or two crops a year, nationwide the coefficient of land utilization is only 1.3 (one year it was only 1.17, and in one area it was only .9). The ratio of one-crop land is still high (about 50 percent of the rice land) and much land is left fallow, which proves that there is good potential for increasing the number of growing seasons. Although their rice-growing areas are not large, many places have rather high annual rice output because they have positively increased the cultivated area and paid attention to intensive cultivation.

Quantitatively, agricultural land can be increased by 3.5 to 4 million additional hectares in order to increase the nation's agricultural land to between 10 and 11 million hectares, so that it accounts for more than 30 percent of the natural land. In recent years some results have been attained in clearing wasteland and expanding the agricultural production area, but because of a lack of special concern for protecting forests and the land; because land-clearing has been carried out without specific studies and planning and the direction of land use is not yet clear and accurate; because of failure to fully carry out the administrative procedures and approve economic-technical justifications regarding the assigning and receiving of land prior to the land clearing; and because of a lack of planning regarding labor, materials, and technology, and failure to observe the regulations regarding land clearing, the development of paddies, hillside fields, etc., many places have destroyed forests haphazardly and seriously depleted forest resources. In many places, many rather large areas have been abandoned.

Although the forestry area is large (nearly 80 percent of the total land area), the forested land which fully meets standards regarding the degree of canopy coverage, density, and exploitable reserves accounts for only about 29 percent of the total, which means that more than 10 million hectares are young forests, shrubs, grasslands, denuded hills, etc. Of that land, about 500,000 hectares have been eroded down to the rock bed in the Central Highlands, the former Zone 4, and the southern Trung Bo coastal area. The wasteland and denuded hillside areas are increasing rapidly.

The state is constantly concerned with land management and has begun to create many scientific, legal, and social bases on which to improve land management. But because there are still many limitations in consciousness, the organization and cadre tasks, the material-technical bases, and even working methods, we have not yet been able to bring an end to such negative phenomena in the management and use of land as abandoning land, land encroachment, the illegal buying and selling of land, the arbitrary granting of land, and irrational use of land which has caused serious waste of the nation's land. The effects of such phenomena have caused a serious reduction of agricultural land (in the 1961-1975 period agricultural land declined by 10 percent in Ha Nam Ninh and between 1960 and 1980 the cultivated area in Thai Binh declined by 7,157 hectares, the equivalent of the cultivated area of an average district), but also adversely affected the creation and consolidation of new production relations in the rural areas, especially in the southern provinces.

In order to resolve those remaining problems, and because of the urgent requirements of developing production, especially the all-round development of

agricultural production, the Council of Ministers has promulgated the following:

- Resolution No 404-CP, dated 9 November 1979, regarding the functions, responsibilities, and organization of the Land Management General Department.
- Decision No 201-CP, dated 1 July 1980, regarding the unification of land management and the strengthening of land management throughout the nation.
- Directive No 279-TTg, dated 10 November 1980, regarding the surveying, classification, and statistical registration of land.

The state has never concentrated its guidance of land management as highly as during the recent period. A decision was made to end the situation of dispersion in land management and concentrate it in one unified organ to help the Council of Ministers and the people's committees at the various levels to exercise the state's management function with regard to land. The initial measures for "firmly grasping and tightly managing" land that have been unified serve as models for the sectors and echelons.

In the nationwide implementation of the decisions and directives of the government many specific tasks have been carried out and initial results have been attained:

With regard to the surveying, classification, and registration of land:

Surveying is carried out in order to draft geo-political maps and firmly grasp the areas of the various types of land in each administrative unit and production unit. Surveying is necessary in order to do a good job of managing and using land. The classification of land helps planners and people using land correctly evaluate quality in order to draft effective measures to fully exploit the potential of the land. Land registration is carried out in order to create a legal basis on which to determine the right to use land and implement the land management measures and regulations. To carry out those tasks well is to take a step forward in carrying out basic land studies and create conditions for grasping the actual land situation at present with regard to quantity, quality, and land management, in correct accordance with the requirements of the economic development mission.

On the basis of the actual situation of implementing the directive on surveying, classifying, and registering land nationwide during the past 2 years we may make the following observations:

- The present survey has provided data about the land area, especially the land now being used for agricultural production, in the places which have carried out that task in correct accordance with the regulations, which meet the quality standards and are more detailed than previous surveys. According to the new data, agricultural production land in general has increased, especially in the southern provinces. The accurate surveying of the land area has promptly served the contracting-out of final output to workers in agricultural production. Many cooperatives have on their own accord organized land

surveys to serve as a basis for the contracting out of land and to ensure fairness and rationality in the cooperative.

-- The classification of land has not been carried out strongly because of continued confusion about methods, a lack of cadres, and a lack of basic documentation. However, the places which have carried out trial surveys along the guidelines of the Land Management General Department have shown that good classification with above all have a positive effect on a number of immediate requirements, such as contracting out and the setting up of new, more just and rational, tax books.

-- Initial registration in order to advance to determining the land use rights of organizations and citizens is a complicated task of a social-legal nature. It is intended not only to create legal bases on which to manage land on the long terms but also, in the immediate future, to resolve the present, extremely complicated, land relations in the rural areas, end the negative phenomena in the management and use of land, and contribute to building and consolidating the socialist production relations.

On assigning and recovering land:

One of the reasons for the decline in agricultural land has been the arbitrary assigning of land. Everyone thinks that they have the right to grant land, and there are different stipulations regarding authority to grant land. Decision No 201-CP more rationally redefined authority to grant land, the land assigning mode, and the organs helping the people's committees at all echelons regarding the assignment and recovery of land to achieve nationwide in the general spirit of being simpler and easier when assigning land for agricultural production and being more circumspect and stringent when assigning land, recovering land, and using land for other purposes. The organizations of the land management sector are organs which assist the Council of Ministers people's committees at all echelons in exercising the state's management function in that regard.

In recent years the land management sector has positively helped the state to gradually unify the assigning and recovery of land and to protect land used for agricultural and forestry production. However, there are still many remaining problems which must be overcome:

-- In order to get around the tight regulations regarding authority to assign land and the land assignment procedures, some localities have simultaneously promulgated many land assignment decisions for a project when they should have made only one decision. The person using the land should be assigned only as much as can be used at one time, and must use all of the land within the designated time.

-- Installations are built on cultivated land but the applications state that the land is on a hillside or is undeveloped so that the request will readily be granted.

-- because they are afraid of incurring expenses and of increasing the costs of capital construction projects or mining projects, some land-using organizations are deliberately evasive and do not create conditions for the land management to fulfill its mission of economizing in the use of land and protecting the land now being used for agricultural and forestry production.

-- The widespread phenomena of tilling "lip-service" fields and "lending land" are also forms of arbitrary, unprincipled land assignment. People who use such land never fulfill the stipulated obligations to the state. It must be understood that the state assigns land only for use, and only organizations or citizens who have agricultural or forestry production missions are assigned land so that they can use the land for such purposes. People who use agricultural land must pay agricultural taxes and deliver other products according to legal stipulations.

-- The new stipulations regarding the assigning of land for the exploitation of raw materials and minerals according to the "sign contracts to use land for a limited time" form are positive measures intended to protect production land and avoid waste when land is used for specialized purposes. But those stipulations have not yet been implemented fully and strictly because in the past land was usually granted directly to units requesting permission to exploit natural resources, many mining units are not accustomed to them and have not been given specific guidance.

-- Although they have engaged in commodity production for many years, the economic-technical justifications of many state farms and state forests have not yet been approved, so they do not yet have sufficient legal bases and the necessary procedures for assigning land. A number of other state farms have been set up hastily and do not correctly observe the technical regulations and administrative procedures, which has not only caused waste in the use of production land but has also resulted in unnecessary competition among the local organizations and citizens regarding land use rights.

-- The adjustment of land in the rural south, especially in the Mekong Delta, is a very important land assignment-recovery policy of the state in the present phase which is intended to eliminate exploitation and establish a foundation for transforming socialist production relations in agriculture. In recent years the provinces have positively promoted that task, but they still have not met the requirements rationally and fully. A rather large percentage of the peasant households are using less than the average amount of land in the village. The places which are adjusting land are encountering difficulty in balancing recovered land and assigned land and the disparity between the natural characteristics of the land (distant or near, good or bad, etc.) and the local labor capabilities (unequal distribution). There must be additional specific policies for each area on the basis of firmly grasping the land and labor.

Control and Oversight of Land Use:

The actual situation at present is that land laws have not been respected and land management has not yet entered the socialist legal order. Land is still

used wastefully, has degenerated, has been encroached upon, and has not been used for the objectives for which it has been assigned. The control and oversight of the implementation of the land use regulations are intended to promptly overcome the above situation, prevent new violations, and definitively resolve the old violations.

End conflicts, complaints, and denunciations in the management and use of land.

In the southern provinces, conflicts concentrated in the restoration of land use rights by people who return to their home area, competition for the use of land between local citizens and the newly set-up state farms and between the individual peasants and the cooperatives and production collective, complaints about land not being properly recovered, the assignment of land not in correct accordance with procedures, etc.

In the northern provinces, complaints are concentrated on the use of land for improper purposes, the unauthorized assigning of land, the waste of land by organs and organizations, etc.

In order to do a good job of resolving those relations, it is necessary to apply specific measures based on the land, labor, and social characteristics of each locality. The principles that must be ensured are protecting the legitimate rights of the masses and developing production, while at the same time increasing the effectiveness of land utilization.

Furthermore, a number of administrative borders between the provinces, districts, and villages have not been determined specifically and clearly. The prolongation of that situation has not only created impediments and deficiencies in land management (in some places management is redundant but in other places no one manages), but also creates other negative phenomena in social management.

The determination of the administrative boundaries between echelons is an important, complicated task that must result from a synthesis of the geographical, historical, economic, and social psychology factors of each locality. The Land Management General Department has given the localities specific guidance regarding the determination of boundaries in the process of carrying out the surveying, classification, and registration of land.

In sum, as it enters a new phase in economic construction and development the state has paid much attention to the management and use of land. Its line toward the management and use of land, based on the actualities of Vietnam, took form on the basis of firmly grasping the basic situation, doing a good job of exploiting land resources in a tropical area, protecting the land so that it will not deteriorate, and managing the land closely in order to develop production, transform society, and developing all strengths of the land to enrich the country and improve the people's living standards. In accordance with that line, we have begun to create an organization and a working method and have set forth a number of specific and rational measures to firmly grasp the land resources in all respects to serve as the basis on which to rationally use and tightly manage those resources and bring about

real benefit for the long-range missions of developing the national economy and managing society.

In the immediate future, land management must be closely combined with the missions of fulfilling the 5-year plan and implementing the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress.

In order to fulfill those missions, first of all it is necessary to have a high degree of unity about basic concepts of land management. Land is the most important basis on which to build a foundation for the attainment of the economic development and social management goals of the 1981-1985 state plan.

If we are to reorganize the economy, develop agricultural and forestry production, and do a good job of protecting the environment, it is very necessary that studies to grasp land resources be carried out rationally and in the sphere of each province, district, and village.

Land must be tightly managed so that it can be used rationally and with high effectiveness, while contributing to the transformation and consolidation of socialist production relations in agricultural and forestry production, struggling against negativism in social management, and consolidating the state administration at the basic level.

Under our country's circumstances, in order to fulfill those missions, the creation and consolidation of the organizational system of the land management sector from the basic level up to the central level plays a decisive role.

Another struggle direction of the land management mission is essentially completing the implementation of Directive No 299-TTg regarding the surveying, classification, and registration of land.

Matters that must receive attention are the closer cooperation among the sectors at the central and local levels, ensuring the high quality of the data that are collected, going all-out to getting land management on the right track, and closely calculating economic effectiveness in land use. By 1985, on a nationwide sphere we must not only have better data about land area and quality but must also put together sufficient data at the basic level to determine the land utilization rights of the organizations and citizens and to serve as a legal basis on which to give land management a firm legal basis.

The drafting of legal documents regarding the use and management of land must be regarded as important activity contents in codifying management, while also raising levels, especially those of land users. The contents of such documents are intended to resolve specific problems in assigning and recovering land, overseeing and controlling the management and use of land, ending conflicts and complaints in the management and use of land, and promptly monitoring all changes in the land situation.

Land management is becoming increasingly important and urgent. Because that task is not merely a technical task but is also related to many other social activities. It is not only directly related to agricultural and forestry

production but also affects the water conservancy, communications, construction, cultural, service, and other sectors, so it should not be carried out simplistically. Careful analysis must be made of the economic, social, and natural situation of each locality in order to draft appropriate working methods.

Among the relevant sectors there must be unity in thought and action, close coordination, and mutual aid, in order to ensure all state management contents regarding land are fully implemented.

Land Management General Department
29 August 1982

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GEO: 42.9/745

BIOGRAPHIC

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE PERSONALITIES

[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

Lương Ngọc Ái [LUWOWNG NGOCJ AIS]

*Deputy Director of the Science and Technology Department, State Bank; his article "Banking Transactions and Research and Development Institutions" appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Feb 83 inside back cover)

Nguyễn Văn An [NGUYEENX VAWN AN], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1925; a senior staff member of the Combined Ground Forces Academy; Member of the VCP; he died following a heart attack on 25 March 1983. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 1 Apr 83 p 4)

Đỗ Anh [DOOX ANHS], Professor

President of Agriculture College No 2, Ha Bac; he cowrote an article on his college in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Jan 83 inside back cover)

Như Thế Bảo [NHUWX THEES BAOR], Doctor, deceased

Former Director of the 108th Military Hospital; Director of the 303th Hospital; Director of the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Hospital; Director of the Health Protection Department, Ministry of Public Health; he died on 2 April 1983 at age 71, after a long illness. (NHAN DAN 3 Apr 83 p 4)

Lương Sĩ Cầu [LUWOWNG SIX CAAUF], deceased

Member of the VCP since 1930; former Chairman of Administrative Revolutionary Committee, Ha Tinh Province; former cadre in the Ministry of Foreign Trade; born in 1902 in Duc Tho District, Nghe Tinh Province, he died on 1 April 1983 at the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Hospital. (NHAN DAN 3 Apr 83 p 4)

Nguyễn Chính [NGUYEENX CHINHS]

*Deputy Director of the Culture and Information Service, Song Be Province; he was quoted in an article on cultural activities on rubber plantations. (NHAN DAN 3 Apr 83 p 3)

Trần Việt Chy [TRAAF VIEETJ CHY]

Director of the Cultivation Department, Ministry of Agriculture; his article "New Rice Varieties and Paddy Quality" appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Feb 83 inside back cover)

Trần Nhật Du [TRAAF NHAATJ ZUJ]

Editor-in-chief of the newspaper LAO DONG; recently he read a letter from Chairman Truong Chinh to his newspaper at a meeting marking LAO DONG's 40th anniversary. (LAO DONG 14 Apr 83 p 1)

Lê Văn Dỵ [LEE VAWN ZYX]

Alternate Member of the VCP Central Committee; Director of the Chemicals General Department; his article on activities in the chemical engineering field appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Jan 83 inside back cover)

Đỗ Trọng Giang [DOOX TRONGJ GIANG]

Member of the Secretariat of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions; his article "The Workers' Newspaper" appeared in the cited source. (LAO DONG 31 Mar 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Văn Giáo [NGUYEENX VAWN GIAOS], Lieutenant Colonel

Commander of the Hung Vuong Engineer Regiment; he was mentioned in an article on his unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 May 83 p 2)

Lê Hân [LEE HAANS], *Colonel

His article on armed forces technical school instructors appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 28 Mar 83 p 2)

Hà Hoa [HAF HOA] aka Cao Thị Nga [CAO THIJ NGA]

Member of the VCP; Head of the Editorial Staff, Commerce and Finance Section of the newspaper NHAN DAN; born in Hanoi on 20 January 1924 she died on 9 April 1983 following a long illness. (NHAN DAN 10 Apr 83 p 4)

Lê Quang Hòa [LEE QUANG HOAF], Lieutenant General

Vice Minister of National Defense; recently he attended awards ceremonies in Ho Chi Minh City for the 7th Military Region. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Apr 83 p 1)

Phạm Hồng [PHAMJ HOONGF], *Colonel

His article on fortifications appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 10 Apr 83 p 2)

Nguyễn Văn Khanh [NGUYEENX VAWN KHANH]

*Deputy Director of the Science and Technology Information Institute under the VCP Central Committee; he was mentioned in an article on the Vietnam Infoterra Center. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Jan 83 p 34)

Mai Ky² [MAI KYR]

Vice Minister of Engineering and Metals; he reviewed his Ministry's 82 activities and previewed 83 plans. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Jan 83 inside back cover)

Nguyễn Hồng Lạc [NGUYEENX HOONGF LACJ]

*Deputy Director of the Committee for Settled Farming and Settled Life, Ministry of Forestry; he was mentioned in an article on the Dao people. (DAI DOAN KET 13 Apr 83 p 4)

Hà Thanh Phong [HAF THANH PHONG]

*Vice Chairman of the Fatherland Front Committee, Gia Lai-Kon Tum; he was quoted in an article on activities of Southern Fatherland Front Committees. (DAI DOAN KET 16 Mar 83 p 2)

Bùi Phùng [BUIF PHUNGF], Lieutenant General

Vice Minister of National Defense; he went to a reception given by the Hungarian Ambassador on the 38th anniversary of Hungary's Liberation Day (NHAN DAN 2 Apr 83 p 1)

Phan Quang Sáng [PHAN QUANG SANGS], *Lieutenant Colonel

An instructor of the Engineer Officers Command and Technical School; a photo in the cited source shows him demonstrating operation of trench digger to class. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 29 Mar 83 p 1)

Võ Hoàng Sinh [VOX HOANGF SINH]

*Secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Hau Giang Province; he was interviewed on training of young specialists in agriculture. (TIEN PHONG No 15 12-18 Apr 83 p 3)

Nguyễn Văn Tân [NGUYEENX VAWN TAAN], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1925; cadre in the Technical General Department; Member of the VCP; he died on 12 April 1983 at the 108th Military Hospital. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 14 Apr 83 p 4)

Ngô Tiên Tập [NGOO TIEENS TAAPJ], Assistant Professor

*Vice President of the Road and Railways Transport College; his article on his College's 35 years of existence appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Feb 83 inside back cover)

Lý Hữu Thanh [LYS HUWUX THANH]

*Vice Chairman of the Fatherland Front Committee, Cao Bang Province; he was quoted in an article on the Dao people's present situation. (DAI DOAN KET 13 Apr 83 p 4)

Trần Thăng [TRAANF THAWNGS], *Lieutenant Colonel

*Chief, Rear Services Bureau, 7th Military Region; his interview on rear services activities in his organization appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 6 Apr 83 p 2)

Lương Ngọc Toàn [LUWOWNG NGOCJ TOANR]

Vice Minister of Education; on 16 April 1983 he was scheduled to appear on Hanoi television to discuss upcoming examinations. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Apr 83 p 4)

Phạm Văn Trình [PHAMJ VAWN TRINHF], MA

President of the College of Architecture, Ministry of Building; his article "Three Years' Activity of the Housing Research Program" appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Jan 83 inside back cover)

Nguyễn Tiến Trình [NGUYEENX TIEENS TRINHJ]

Minister of Marine Products; on 1 April 1983 he was present at the traditional festival for his sector in Minh Hai Province. (NHAN DAN 8 Apr 83 p 1)

Lê Thế Trung [LEE THEES TRUNG], Colonel

His article on utilizing folk and traditional medicine in military medicine appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 14 Apr 83 p 2)

Trần Danh Tuyên [TRAANF ZANH TUYEEN]

Deputy Director of the Foreign Relations Department of the VCP Central Committee; on 1 April 1983 he was present at a meeting with a Greek Communist Party delegation. (NHAN DAN 2 Apr 83 p 1)

Phan Ngọc Tường [PHAN NGOCJ TUWOWNGF]

Alternate Member of the VCP Central Committee; Minister of Building; his article reviewing 82 civil engineering activities and previewing 83 orientations appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC Feb 83 inside back cover)

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June 3, 1983